WAR AND THE CHILD.

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The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.] ***Societies and Branches in the Union* 602.** [NON-PARTY.

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Notes and News.

N.U. Hospitals Requisitioned.

News of lively interest to the National Union has been received this week from Malta. The second Serbian unit of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals, on its way to Kraguievatz, has been stopped at Malta, the Governor having requisitioned it for immediate service to nurse our own British troops. Dr. Alice Hutchinson, who left Cardiff for Salonika on April 20th, in charge of forty-two other members of the unit and a fully-equipped laboratory, cabled on Monday from Malta to the headquarters in Great Britain of the Scottish Women's Hospitals: "Consequent upon urgent necessity, Governor of Malta desires services of our unit one week or more. Writing details. Hutchinson." It will be remembered that at the outbreak of the war, when the N.U. offered the services of its hospital units to the Red Cross, they were refused. Since those days the attitude of the country towards women's work has undergone a distinct change, and the value of their services is recognised officially to-day as never before in the history of our movement.

Mr. Asquith's Appeal.

Mr. Asquith, speaking on Tuesday at the Westminster Palace Hotel, stated that according to the latest completed returns made up to April 29th, the total number of women now registered for war work amounted to 52,000, and that women had been found most satisfactory in munition work. He instanced a large engineering firm where he had found three or four thousand women at work. Other trades in which he thought the service of women would be useful are the lighter metal trades, the tailoring trade, the making of biscuits, aerated waters, china, earthenware, and stationery, and clerical work in banks, offices, and railways. Mr. Asquith closed his speech with words which many members of the National Union will be inclined to accept in a wider sense even than he intended: "Let there not be a man or a woman among us who will not then be able to say, 'I was not idle. I took such part as I could in the greatest task which in all the storied annals of our country has ever fallen to the lot of Great Britain to achieve.'" Some believe that the yet further achievement of a lasting peace will be even more rightly described in the future as the "greatest task" of our country and others. Meanwhile, we heartily congratulate the Prime Minister on having discovered that women as well as men inhabit Great Britain and are essential to its welfare.

Mr. Lloyd George's Perplexing Task.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer introduced his Bill for the State control of liquor into the House of Commons last week, with the remark that "of all the perplexing and disagreeable tasks that has fallen to the lot of any Minister, the attempt to provide a solution to the drink difficulty is about the worst." His "solution" is frankly in the nature of a temporary expedient, and even as such Mr. George seems to have lingering doubts whether it goes far enough. There is to be no general prohibition, although Mr. George himself makes out a singularly strong case for the prohibition of spirits, quoting weighty authorities in its favour, and he indicates that he may yet "be driven to it." The Bill itself, to be known as Defence of the Realm (Amendment) (No. 3) Act, provides for State control in certain areas, and also for the supply of refreshments, including, if thought fit, the supply of intoxicating liquor. In regard to this experiment, in the course of an interview, Earl Grey quoted several instances of the proved value of houses under disinterested management, in both industrial and military areas. Mr. Lloyd George also proposed a heavy tax on spirits, wines, and beer—a suggestion which met with considerable opposition from those who were unwilling to sacrifice luxury to patriotism, and who overwhelmed the wine and spirit dealers with immediate orders so as to evade the tax. We note, however, that the abandonment of these proposals is a feature of what a contemporary calls "the featureless Budget."

A Suggested Experiment.

The Daily Telegraph for May 9th makes an interesting suggestion in regard to Civil Service openings for women: "Could not the Civil Service Commissioners offer one or two of the examinations to be competed for by women, the Intermediate Examination, for instance, or the next Second Division one? It would be a most interesting experiment." We agree, and also endorse the protest of the same writer against "the opposition to any approach to equal treatment for women in Civil Service appointments," which emanates chiefly from the heads of certain departments.

The War Bonus and Arbitration.

The coal owners, having consented to hold a joint conference, have made the offer of a 10 per cent. advance on the standard wage, but this is rejected by the men, who are asking for a 20 per cent. advance on actual earnings. The miners have now decided to refer their dispute to an arbitrator to be chosen by the Prime Minister, a decision at variance with their ordinary policy which is opposed to compulsory arbitration. In the Post-office dispute a similar innovation has taken place; but there it is the Government which appeals for the first time to arbitration to settle the question of their employees' demand for a bonus.

Excessive Hours.

Mr. MacCallum Scott asked the Home Secretary a question in Parliament concerning the glaring case of overwork in a Leeds ammunition factory, and the refusal of the stipendiary magistrate to deal with it, recently noted in THE COMMON CAUSE. Mr. Cecil Harmsworth objected that the case was still *sub judice*, but was unable to explain in what sense this was the case. We hope the matter will not be allowed to rest here. However great the difficulties of dealing with an abnormal pressure of work, vague assurances of a desire "to safeguard workers against

excessive hours" do not seem to meet the case nor to give any definite security whatever against the recurrence of such deplorable incidents.

Committee of Social Investigation and Reform.

We have just received the admirable first report of this Committee, formed in May, 1913, for the following objects: (1) To link up all organisations and individuals interested in discovering the causes of, and the means of combating, prostitution in this country; (2) To collect and disseminate reliable information as to the existing conditions of vice; (3) To provide permanent employment for girls and women needing a new start in life. We are told that "the movement, of which this work is the outcome, had its origin in a belief which is becoming general that the old doctrines of the necessity of vice are discredited." The work is described by Miss Royden in another column.

Votes for Soldiers.

It has been stated more than once in Parliament in answer to questions, that the subject of securing or extending the franchise to all soldiers and sailors on active service is now under consideration. Here is one more nail in the coffin of anti-suffrage objections to Women's Suffrage. We have often been told "Soldiers and sailors don't get votes, why should you?" As it daily becomes more forcibly realised that those who serve the country have a right to share in its government, the part which women are now playing in patriotic service of every description is rapidly coming to be recognised as constituting an undeniable claim to their enfranchisement.

Farm Labour.

A circular sent out by the Agricultural Consultation Committee definitely states that the farmer can afford an increase of 15 per cent. in wages on those given at the beginning of the war. There is a firm conviction among those who are acquainted with rural conditions that after the war the labourer is unlikely to return to the land, and the present disastrous shortage of labour is therefore likely to be permanent. Mr. Hall, in an authoritative series of articles in *The Times* shows that the choice lies between the increased use of machinery with good wages, and a scarcity of labour which must prove disastrous to agriculture. The employment of child labour he thinks can only increase the evil, and the same must, of course, apply to all underpaid labour, including that of women. There should, therefore, be definite scope for trained and skilled farm labourers in the future, and the successful experiment of Radlett, which we note below, should augur well for the training of women for such work.

Factory Girls as Working Gardeners.

An experiment of the Central Committee on Women's Unemployment for setting town girls to work on the land has, so far, proved a marked success. The girls have been under training near Radlett for seven months, with a view to becoming working gardeners (as distinguished from lady supervisors), and it is now reported that out of twenty-six trainees, twenty have kept steadily to work, punctually returning through snow and floods after the Christmas holidays, and that very much good work has been done through the winter.

A Belgian Garden.

Another most interesting scheme of rather the same nature is now started in Cambridge. Girton College has lent the ground for a school of instruction in Belgian methods of vegetable and fruit growing, with the idea of employing Belgians to teach their well-known methods of intensive cultivation to Englishwomen. M. Raymond Goffin, State Lecturer in Horticulture in Belgium, wounded at the Siege of Antwerp, is in charge of the garden, and his teaching includes the growing of vegetables not commonly known in this country. It is thought that this experiment also may result in making an opening for working women as gardeners, instead of confining the industry as hitherto to working men and educated women.

Wanted, "Common Cause" Sellers.

Who among our London readers will undertake to sell The Common Cause? Volunteers are greatly needed. Will everyone who can help study the meetings noticed under the heading "Common Cause Selling," and choose out one to sell at? We will gladly supply copies of the paper, or application may be made to The Shop, 50, Parliament Street. There are many in these days who have no time to sell. Will they very kindly send us money to pay women in need of employment to sell the paper? This would help them and help us. Please note we are now at 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster.

In Parliament.

Wednesday, April 28th.

Women in the Censor's Department.

The Under-Secretary of State for War, in reply to a question by Mr. MacCullum Scott with regard to men and women employed in the Censor's Department, stated that 130 men and 130 women were employed. For men the salaries were £550, £400, and £300 a year; £5, £4, and £3 a week. For women, £200 a year, £3 and £2.

Mr. MacCullum Scott asked what qualifications are required of the women employed in the Censor's Department on the work of examining private foreign correspondence; whether these are highly educated women with a knowledge of several foreign languages; whether many were induced to offer their services by the promise that the salary would commence at £2 per week for a period not exceeding three weeks, when it would be raised to £3 a week if their services were found to be of special value, and what steps had been taken in pursuance of this promise.

Mr. Tennant replied that the qualifications are discretion and a knowledge of certain languages. The possibility of advancement was held out, but no period within which it would take place was mentioned. The salary of those whose services have been found to be of special value had been raised to £3 a week, and further promotions will be made. The hours for those employed in examining private correspondence are from 9.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m., while in the trade department they are 10 to 6. Men and women are employed in both departments and observe the same hours.

Overwork in Factories.

The Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department (Mr. Cecil Harmsworth), in reply to a question by Mr. Anderson with regard to the prosecution of a firm at Leeds, for working a girl under eighteen from 6 a.m. on Friday till 7 a.m. on Saturday, when she met with an accident, referred to an answer he had already given to a similar question, in which he had stated that as the case was still *sub judice* he was precluded from discussing it. Asked in what sense the case was still *sub judice* and whether there was an appeal, Mr. Harmsworth replied that he had no information on that point.

In reply to a further question by Mr. Anderson, as to whether he could take steps in co-operation with the military and naval authorities to encourage only such industrial conditions as will not destroy physical health and in the end retard output, Mr. Harmsworth said that as far as its powers extend the Home Office had made every endeavour, in consultation with the War Office and the Admiralty, to adapt the conditions of work to the needs of the present emergency, and at the same time to safeguard workers against excessive hours.

Mr. Anderson also drew his attention to the refusal of Messrs. Vickers & Co. to raise the wages of women employed as belt machinists at their Erith works, although their report showed profits at disposal to December last amounting to £1,241,843, while after paying ordinary dividend for the year at 12½ per cent. the firm were able to place to reserve a sum of £1,764,000, or £694,000 more than a year ago. The advance asked by the women was 1d. an hour in cases where their hourly rate is 2½d. or less, and ½d. an hour where the rate is higher. Mr. Harmsworth replied that the Chief Industrial Commissioner has had the dispute under consideration, and that arrangements have been made for a meeting between the parties.

Wages of Postal Employees.

The Postmaster General (Mr. Hobhouse), in the course of the Debate on Supply, stated that, owing to recruiting, the Post Office had had in many cases to replace men by women, and boys by girls, but there was no intention of "determining questions as to employment after the war by reference to decisions arrived at in consequence of war requirements and necessities." With regard to the demand for a war bonus for postal servants, Mr. Hobhouse pointed out that the application made to him had been followed by a similar application presented by the Civil Service Federation to the Treasury. This was, therefore, a question that affected not merely the Post Office, but all the other Departments in which there are a large number of employees. After full and careful inquiry, the Government had felt unable to accede to the demand for a war bonus, at a time when "expenditure is nothing less than appalling, when taxation is greatly increased, and when most people think it will be still

further increased to meet the necessities of the war." The rise of prices, in the Government's opinion, was not in itself, in war times, a sufficient reason for making advances in the wages of the permanent Civil Servants, who were free from many of the disabilities of ordinary employment, and were certain of a pension when no longer able to work. The Government, however, were prepared to refer these question to arbitration, and would accept the result loyally.

Mr. Wardle urged the cause of the "lower paid men and women," and stated that a case had been cited to him of a woman who was being paid 18s. a week by the Post Office, in London, out of which she had to pay fares and 3s. 6d. for meals. "When these items are deducted, these women have an exceedingly small sum upon which to attempt to lead a respectable life."

People of Great Britain to be Consulted on Terms of Peace.

Mr. John asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether, seeing that the Government has undertaken that the Overseas Dominions shall be effectually consulted when terms of peace come to be formulated, the fullest facilities will also be accorded to the people of Great Britain and Ireland to make their views known.

The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Primrose) replied that certainly every facility afforded to the Overseas Dominions would be provided also for Great Britain and Ireland.

Thursday, April 29th.

Food Prices.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade (Mr. J. M. Robertson), in reply to various questions with regard to the rise of prices, said that the problem of the best means of restraining the prices of necessaries without endangering their supply was receiving constant and anxious attention. With regard to the milk supply the Government were in communication with representatives of the distributing trade.

Belgian Refugees.

The President of the Local Government Board (Mr. Herbert Samuel) stated, in reply to a question by Mr. Hogge, that, excluding soldiers, the number of Belgian refugees in this country was about 180,000. Out of about 39,000 employable men some 17,000 had already been placed in employment, and out of about 17,000 employable women some 3,000 were employed. A large number of Belgians were employed in armament factories.

Illegitimate Children.

Mr. King asked for a statement of the Government's intentions with regard to legislation relating to illegitimacy.

Mr. McKenna replied that the matter was extremely controversial, and it was impossible for him to initiate legislation at the present time.

School Exemption Attendance.

Several questions were asked with regard to the exemption of children from school attendance, and the President of the Board of Education promised to inquire into the various regulations made by local authorities. He also stated that he was making inquiries with regard to the case of a little girl of nine who was alleged to be engaged to shave soldiers at Budbroke Barracks, Warwickshire.

Sale of Alcoholic Liquors.

The following proposals were outlined by the Chancellor of the Exchequer :—

The duty on spirits to be doubled.

A graded surtax on beers containing over 7 per cent. of proof spirit, ranging from 12s. to 36s. per bulk barrel, according to the special gravity.

The duty on wines to be quadrupled, and the tax on sparkling wines raised to 15s. per gallon.

The maximum dilution of spirits permitted by law to be increased from 25 to 35 under proof.

The Government to take powers, limited to the period of the war, to close public-houses or to control them in certain areas where their presence is considered to be prejudicial to the output of munitions of war, the work of transport, or the discipline of troops. The power to include the right to use licensed or other premises in the area for the purposes of supplying reasonable refreshment, and to make purchases from any brewery nothwithstanding that a house has previously been tied.

Fair compensation to be given in respect of existing interests. The principles of compensation to be the same as those already in force under the present Defence of the Realm Act, and a Commission is to be appointed to ascertain the amount to be paid.

Reform of the Public-house.

In the course of the debate, Sir R. Cooper put in a strong plea for reformed public-houses :—

"I want public-houses made places where drink is no more offered for sale than anything else that a man requires. There is not only the working man to be considered in regard to social life, but his wife. To my knowledge there are enormous numbers of working people where the wife has no social life, except perhaps afternoon tea. There is another important aspect of the matter, namely, that we are depending more and more on the work of women in our factories and offices, and that an enormous increase has taken place in the number of women who take up commercial work. If the Chancellor of the Exchequer comes later on to extend the principle he has put before the House to-night, I hope he will consider whether he cannot do what is done in every Continental country, namely, provide a suitable and desirable place where drink is sold by the State, where it is controlled by the State, and where food and refreshments can be obtained not only by the working man, but by his wife and the workgirls."

Tuesday, May 4th.

The War Budget.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in introducing his second War Budget, made what was practically a general financial statement, and left the real Budget for the year to be drawn up at a later time, when a more accurate estimate could be made. For the present, he was content to ask the House to pass a resolution renewing the income-tax at the scale imposed last November, with a slight readjustment in the case of endowment insurance. He warned the House, however, that if the war was prolonged it would be necessary to consider what further contributions the community could make to conduct the war, success in which was vital to the very existence of the Empire. The average daily cost of the war, he said, was now £2,100,000. If it lasted till September, the expenditure, on the same scale, would be £786,778,000. If it was prolonged till next April, £1,132,654,000 would be needed. An interesting feature in the figures of last year was "the wonderful buoyancy of the income-tax and super-tax," both of which had yielded considerably more than he had estimated. The revenue customs and excise duties had also exceeded the estimate by a large amount.

Mr. Lloyd George made it clear that the Government were prepared to make drastic modifications in their scheme of liquor taxation, announced last week, in view of the opposition displayed in many quarters.

Illegitimacy.

Mr. Dundas White asked the Prime Minister whether he would give an early opportunity for the discussion of the motion with reference to the legitimation of children by the subsequent marriage of their parents, standing in his name.

Mr. Asquith.—This is part of a larger question, as to which the Government are making inquiries. I cannot, at present, give a day for its discussion.

WOMEN IN INVASION.

On Friday, April 16th, a small deputation waited upon the Lord Lieutenant of Essex, at the Shire Hall, Chelmsford, in order to bring before him the desirability of putting women on to the Invasion Committees in the county. The deputation originally consisted of some six or seven women of prominent position in various parts of the county. Professional and other duties prevented the attendance of some of them at the last moment, but the following were able to be present, and were favourably received :—Mrs. Christopher Parker, of Faulkbourne Hall, Witham ; the Hon. Mrs. Champion Russell, of Stubbers, North Ockenden ; Mrs. Bentall, of The Towers, Heybridge ; Miss Courtauld, of Knight's Farm, Earl's Colne.

Mrs. Parker introduced the deputation, and the Hon. Mrs. Champion Russell explained to Lord Warwick that the object of the deputation was not criticism, but co-operation ; that, in the event of invasion or of serious coast raids, the responsible women of a district would naturally assume leadership with regard to such matters, for instance, as the provision of food and shelter for invalids and children, and, if necessary, their removal ; or in helping to carry out the important instructions issued as to keeping civilians out of the way of the military. In these and other ways, women would be able to give more effectual help if they themselves were represented on the committees.

To this Lord Warwick replied that the appointment of women on the local Emergency Committees was quite in accordance with the instructions he had received, and that he had much pleasure in acceding to the request of the deputation.

Ellen M. Creak.

How to Save the "War Babies."

(Continued from last week.)

This problem is but part of the very grave and pressing one of safeguarding all infant life, and the Report for 1913, issued on April 29th by the Registrar-General, calls for serious consideration. "Again the birth-rate has gone down, and a further fall is indicated by the provisional returns for 1914."

"The total death-rate in the general population is lower, but not sufficiently low to compensate for the fall in the birth-rate. The mortality of illegitimate infants was about twice as great as that of the legitimate, the births being, respectively, 37,909 and 843,980."

Much controversy and public interest have centred lately round the "War Baby." Sir Thomas Barlow counsels a cessation of discussion until trustworthy information is available, and he adds "there need be no fear that the practical problem will be shirked."

Is it not time to take a wider outlook and to remember the source of our anxiety for the "War Baby"—*i.e.*, the need to save every savable baby, in view of the fact that we are losing heavily not only on the actual battlefield, but that here in our midst, out of over 800,000 born some 100,000 babies die in their first year, and 200,000 before they reach their fifteenth birthday, to say nothing of 120,000 who die in the antenatal period?

Would the fall in the birth-rate be so serious (and we must face the fact that it is bound to fall still more this year) if we could save even half of our doomed babies?

Let us remember that more than one-fifth of them die in their first week of life, and more than one-third of them die in their first month, and that according to Dr. Newsholme most of these deaths are due to preventible causes in the pre-natal and natal periods.

Help for the Mother.

Clearly, the only way to save the baby is to help the mother in these periods—to see that she has Sir George Newman's minimum requirements for healthy motherhood :—

1. Cessation of hard work before and after childbirth.
2. Adequate feeding.
3. Intelligent management of infancy.

In most towns *something* is being done for infant welfare, and all that is needed is considerable and immediate extension of this activity. How many babies are saved will depend largely on what support is given to this urgent Baby-saving Crusade by the State, the local authorities, and voluntary workers. The three periods : (1) antenatal, (2) natal), (3) post natal, up to five years of age, are covered by the admirable circular and memorandum of the Local Government Board on "Maternity and Child Welfare," and the Board is prepared to give grants to private enterprise or to local authorities up to 50 per cent. of total expenditure in establishing and maintaining maternity centres, which may comprise :—

I. *Ante-Natal.*—(1) Clinic for expectant mothers. (2) Home visiting of expectant mothers. (3) Maternity hospital or beds at hospital for complicated cases.
II. *Natal.*—Skilled assistance at home or if necessary at hospital.
III. *Post-Natal.*—(1) Treatment of infant or mother at hospital if necessary. (2) Advice and treatment of infant at baby clinic. (3) Continuation of treatment up to school age. (4) Systematic home visiting up to school age.

All interested in this matter should write to Whitehall for these documents, and *act* upon them. (Dr. Janet Lane Claypon at the L.G.B. has much valuable advice to give.) With such magnificent scope can we not see to it that not a single expectant mother or babe in need of help suffers for want of it? Alderman Broadbent, at Huddersfield, offered a prize of £1 for every healthy child reaching its first birthday, and saved many from death, or worse. Will not every Mayoress throughout the land, or other "City Mother," see to it that the local Public Health Department becomes the Mecca for all mothers expecting babies and needing help? Can not a placard be extensively exhibited in prominent places, and (by leaflet) to all midwives, health visitors, and social workers, "England has need of all her babies. Every expectant mother in need will be gladly welcomed at the Maternity Centre (or Infant Welfare Centre, or Mothers' Welcome, or other place)," and bearing signature of Mayoress or other "City Mother," address of Centre, and hours for consultation. In a few days we could have a register of mothers needing help (to say nothing of births notified under the Notification of Births Act, 1907), and in the meantime another register should be compiled by inviting every woman anxious to help in this crusade (and their names and capabilities must be legion) to send in her name to the Mayoress.

The visiting staff of the Public Health Authority would thus be rapidly increased. Assistants to lying-in hospitals, health visitors, sick room helps, invalid cooks, nurses for washing and clothing the babies, &c., &c., would be at hand for any sudden call. Already several have sent in their names to me, imploring me to set them to work!

Wanted, an Army of Women.

Summer is approaching with its deadly visitant depending on flies and garbage—epidemic diarrhœa. Are we to acquiesce in the annual sacrifice with only three hospitals in the land for this special and ever-recurring trouble, namely, the Vincent Square Babies' Hospital, London; Bradford Babies' Hospital; Manchester Babies' Hospital?

Shall there not be hospitals in every town for the little wounded, helpless victims in this war of exterminaton? Shall we have empty cradles to greet the returning fathers who left their babies and wives to the care of a grateful country, while they set out abroad to fight for its defence? Shall the enthusiasm for baby-saving languish while the recruiting boom increases? Shall it *always* be true that "England takes care of her things and throws away her people"?

Much will depend on the City Mothers of England calling together without delay their army for the Baby-saving Crusade. Not a moment is to be lost—the enemy is and always has been in our midst, but we have been blind, and have not recognised him. Once more the Registrar-General bids us awake.

Barbara Tchaykovsky, M.D.

"THE COMMON CAUSE" STREET SELLING.

If you cannot sell "The Common Cause" yourself please send us some money so that we may employ out of work women to sell the paper. Donations should be sent to the Manager, "The Common Cause," 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.

Further donation received—Miss Hoc 4s. 6d.

A list of important London pitches is kept at the Shop, 50, Parliament Street, and at the "C.C." office, and we want volunteers. Please let us know if you can help.

Sellers are urgently needed for the following meetings :—

Monday, May 10th.—Lecture by M. Emile Vandervelde, Savoy Theatre, Strand (2.30-3.30).

Wednesday, May 12th.—Florence Nightingale Commemoration Meeting, Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand (7-8 p.m.).

Thursday, May 13th.—Lecture by Miss Thurstan at The Halcyon Club, 13, Cork Street, W. (off Bond Street) (7-8 p.m.).

Meeting of the United Suffragists, Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand (7-8 p.m.).

Marble Arch Depôt.—Copies can be obtained for Hyde Park sellers on Sunday afternoons from 44, Great Cumberland Place, W.

Kensington Depôt.—Miss Bryan, 7, Stratford Road, Kensington. Sellers in this neighbourhood may apply to her house for copies of the paper.

A Meal in a Moment.

This is the title of a leaflet I took home with me to-day from the city. It appealed to me when I saw it, because the moment I get home I am in a desperate hurry to change into my uniform, have something to eat, and then off to drill. I don't want a heavy meat tea or else my drill suffers, but I do want something quickly, something nice and tasty, especially now the weather is getting warm, and that something must be nourishing. I cannot form fours and march on nothing.

"I have ten minutes for tea, mother, what have you got? Meat or eggs. No, thanks, I am tired of the everlasting, ever-recurring meat and eggs." "Well then just try this," and I had set before me a steaming cup of Wallaceite Coffee, some P.R. Sun food prepared from nuts, &c., and an assortment of P.R. Crispit, Barley Malt, and Oliver biscuits. There were others, but by this time I was too busy devouring them to bother about their names.

"The coffee is jolly good, mother. Another cup, please"; which was followed by another. I forget exactly how many biscuits I had, but I finished my tea in the ten minutes.

After the drill was over, the Commandant called me to him. I expected a wigging, but he said, "I must compliment you upon the way you handled your men to-night; your drilling was excellent." Going home I wondered why it was excellent to-night, Ah, I had it. I felt fit and keen. My refreshing meal had given me the nourishment I required and had not left me with that heavy dull feeling I had so often experienced before. I have asked my mother to keep in the house in future Wallaceite Coffee and a good supply of those excellent food biscuits. I advise my fellow-readers of The Common Cause to write to the Wallace P. R. Foods Co., Ltd., Tottenham Lane, Hornsey, N., for particulars. If they do, I believe their experience of them will be something similar to mine. One of my mottos is "When you strike a good thing pass it on."—Advt.

Correspondence.

Correspondents are urged to write briefly, as the number of letters received is very large. It is necessary to remind our readers that there is no editorial responsibility for opinions expressed in the correspondence columns.

MR. ARMSTRONG AND HIS RESOLUTION AT THE COUNCIL.

MADAM,—Surely Mr. Armstrong's letter in your issue of April 30th betrays either a confusion of thought or a very strange interpretation of the resolution which he moved and carried at the Council in February. The terms of this resolution ran as follows:—"That the Council of the N.U.W.S.S. endorses the action of the Executive Committee in approaching the President of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance to request her to call a congress this year (1915) in a neutral country, and expresses the hope that should this prove impossible *such a congress* (the italics are mine) may be called at the earliest possible opportunity."

I take the words "such a congress" to mean a congress of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance, called by its President, Mrs. Chapman Catt, and its duly elected Board of Officers, and controlled by the constitution rules of the Alliance. Mr. Armstrong seems in his last paragraph to think that it means any congress, on any subject, no matter by whom called.

The Congress which has just been meeting at the Hague was not called by the I.W.S.A. but by an independent body of women, how chosen is not apparent, but they frankly explain in their preliminary manifesto that the scheme was organised by individual women who associated themselves together for this express purpose, and not by any previously existing society. Out of the ten resolutions only one, and that the last, was on Women's Suffrage, the other nine were on Peace and on the European settlement after the war. The first and most conspicuous of the resolutions on the programme was that which has received so much criticism even from those who favoured the congress, calling upon "the Governments of the belligerent countries publicly to define the terms on which they were willing to make peace, and for this purpose immediately to call a truce." The attendance was not to be confined to accredited delegates of societies; any women "in general sympathy with the resolutions were free to become members with power to speak and vote on payment of the Congress fee of 10s." See *Jus Suffragii*, March 1st, 1915.

I maintain, as against Mr. Armstrong, that it was not only the right of the Executive Committee of the N.U.W.S.S. to vote to the best of their judgment upon the desirability of accepting the invitation of the organisers of this Congress to send delegates to it, it was their absolute duty to do so; and that to write as he does in his last paragraph of "the express decisions of the Council having been reversed by the Executive and President" shows a strange misapprehension of the facts. I value very much even the remembrance of Mr. Armstrong's former devotion and loyalty and regret that they have suffered an eclipse. I even venture to hope that if he will ponder the facts which I here lay before your readers, the eclipse (like other eclipses) will be but temporarily. I can assure Mr. Armstrong that I could supply him with proof that it was possible to be a supporter of his resolution at the Council and also of the Hague Congress, and yet to think it was undesirable for the N.U.W.S.S. to send official representatives to the Hague. MILLICENT GARRETT FAWCETT.

MADAM,—After reading the letter you print this week from Mr. George Armstrong I have turned to my file of THE COMMON CAUSE for 1915 to learn, if possible, what apology for his attitude towards our President can be found in the matter there recorded.

I find there that on February 6th the Council passed a resolution welcoming the idea of holding a business meeting of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance if possible in 1915, and if *impossible*, "at the earliest possible moment." The Council rose on Saturday, February 6th. By referring to THE COMMON CAUSE of February 26th, I learn that early in the week after the Council—on the Monday or Tuesday, no doubt—the Hon. Sec. of the Union, the Parliamentary Secretary, and the Press Secretary proceeded to Amsterdam to consider in an "informal conference of women the possibility of holding an International Women's Congress."

Ordinary members of the Union have every right to ask, since our Secretaries (as they were then) had planned to take this action, why they did not lay the matter before the Council?

Mr. Armstrong writes as though the Council's approval of an early meeting of our Suffrage Alliance were the same thing as its approval of a Conference about which it was never consulted.

I further find in THE COMMON CAUSE that the four members of the N.U. Executive Committee who went to Amsterdam thus in haste sent out a letter "proposing an International Women's Congress in Holland" (I quote from THE COMMON CAUSE), and saying that the women of Holland would organise a Congress, and that they, themselves, at a public meeting to be held at Caxton Hall, would give a "full account of the constitution and preliminary programme of the Congress." This they did; mentioning that at the preliminary meeting held in Amsterdam the programme had been drawn up. It was also mentioned that the cost of holding the Congress would be £1,000, and money was raised for these expenses on the spot.

Since then, this programme having been subjected to somewhat severe criticism, we have constantly been informed in the Press (as in THE COMMON CAUSE for April 23rd) "that two points with regard to the Congress had been misunderstood"—the first being that "it had not been arranged by British women, but by the women of Holland." For what purpose then did Miss Courtney, Miss Marshall, Miss Leaf, and Miss Macmillan hasten to Amsterdam immediately after our National Union Council meeting? We may well ask Mr. Armstrong why, if they wished the Council to approve the meeting of an International Congress other than that of the Suffrage Alliance, they could not have asked for what he calls a "direct decision" on this point. He assumes an approval which was neither asked for nor given. MARY LOWNDES.

MADAM,—The letter of Mrs. Swanwick in your last issue illustrates very clearly the impossibility of a body such as the National Union working together on the same lines in the interests of peace. The Editor of THE COMMON CAUSE points out very truly in the same issue that the recent Council declared that the cause of future peace is the basis of the Women's Suffrage Movement. I believe that on that general principle there is almost complete agreement throughout the Union, but when the question arises as to how that cause is best served at this moment wide divergence of opinion begins to appear. An Executive Committee which acts for the whole Union is bound to respect that divergence of opinion, and not to commit the Union to views which have never been agreed upon by the Council.

I consider that the recent resignations from the Executive were without sufficient reason, because those who wish to work for the cause of future peace on lines on which there is not sufficient agreement to justify action by the Union are free to do so in organisations which have been formed for that particular purpose. But surely time spent now in maintaining the strength and the organisation of the National Union is not time altogether lost to the cause of future peace; the National Union stands for Women's Suffrage, and as the Council declared "the full participation of women in political rights is of vital importance to the furtherance of lasting international peace." C. D. RACKHAM.

FACING THE FACTS.

MADAM,—In the letters appearing in your columns, as also in the articles in *The Englishwoman* for April and May, we have, ably advocated, (*a*) the desirability, and (*b*) the undesirability of the National Union adopting one definite view and taking one definite course of action. I submit that in this crucial moment these arguments, however interesting, are yet beside the question, which is one not of desirability but of possibility. Here is a vast, thoroughly representative organisation of women, of which we are rightly proud; and we naturally think how splendid an instrument it offers for bringing about the ideals we hold worthiest. In this we have surely fallen into the habit of certain of our opponents who summarise complacently, "Women are—so and so," "Women feel and act thus," "Women never can—this, that and the other." The unity of Suffragists on Suffrage is wonderful: their unity on any other subject is not calculable. When other questions (however vitally connected with Suffrage they may seem to us) are submitted to the Union, a decisive voice from the Oracle proves, as Uncle Remus would say, to be "powerful lackin." The exact meaning of the pronouncements of the latest Council seems to be as difficult to interpret as the Delphic oracle of old, and it is certain that no conceivable Executive could interpret it to the satisfaction of the Council as a whole.

Had the first attempt to organise a Conference of our International Women's Suffrage Alliance succeeded, the present situation might not have arisen. When, however, it was found that no really representative gathering could be carried out—that even the strong bond of Suffrage could not be so stretched as to cover the acute national divergences of the moment, it was not unreasonable to infer that no other power would avail. I think our friend Mr. Armstrong and others under-estimate the gulf that divides a Conference called by our own world-wide Organisation and one inaugurated by a neutral nation aided by self-constituted committees in various countries.

It is easy to understand and sympathise with the position of valued and revered leaders who find themselves unable to assist in carrying out what they believe a mistaken interpretation of policy: but if, as is possible, a subsequent Council should reverse this interpretation, and elect another Executive, which will carry out the desires of the seceders, would they themselves be satisfied? We know and respect them too well to believe that what they are struggling for is merely their own way. What they hoped, was to see the organised force of womanhood unitedly exercised. This is clearly shown to be (on the point at issue) impossible; and whatever policy may be adopted can only represent a section, and not the N.U. as known to us in the past. The issue is not even a clear one between two parties, one regarding the crusade for International peace and goodwill as worth even the sacrifice of the immediate interests of the Suffrage movement, and the other regarding that crusade as "inopportune." There are others of us who warmly approve of active efforts to influence and organise public opinion, and who (far from considering them "inopportune") are resolved as individuals to co-operate earnestly in such efforts; but we recognise that we cannot carry the N.U. with us as a body.

If this non-possumus be calmly faced, whatever personal disappointment it entails, we must surely come to the conclusion that the N.U. is too valuable an instrument of progress and enlightenment on certain lines (even if these lines be too narrow to please us all) to be destroyed or so crippled as to be unfit for future need: for we must remember that general principles of International peace and goodwill might conceivably be realised—and realised partly by our help—which might nevertheless leave out of their scope the trifling matter of votes for women.

The path before us is not clear, but it is worth an effort to find one. Let us start by recognising that our problem is not what *shall* we, but what *can* we do with our Union. There is an old French motto—"Fais ce que pourrais," which may help us. The first fruits of the devotion we all acknowledge to peace and goodwill should be laid on the altar of our Cause. CATHERINE C. OSLER.

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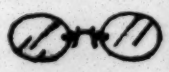

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THE HAGUE CONGRESS.

Madam,—We are told, in The Common Cause of April 23rd, by Mrs. Fawcett that the "Council has given no mandate to undertake active work on peace lines," and further on, in the same article, Mrs. Fawcett asks the N.U. to confine its energies to relief work and educational courses, as if no other policy had been considered at the Council meeting.

The principal feature of the annual Council meeting was its insistence on the repudiation of physical force, its belief in arbitration and conciliation, coupled with the faith that the "full participation of women in national responsibility . . . is of vital importance to the furtherance of lasting international peace."—(See resolutions B 1, 2, 3, 4, C 1, 2, 4, and E.)

Definite instructions for action were given in the case of B 1, when an amendment was carried stating that the Council "calls upon the organised women of the world to press the same policy (of arbitration and conciliation) on their respective Governments." Are we to ask other "organised women to do this work and refuse to undertake it ourselves? Also in B 3, the Council "calls upon the Societies and members of the Union to take every means open to them for promoting mutual understanding and goodwill among nations." In E the Council asks for the International Women's Suffrage Alliance Congress to be called at the earliest opportunity.

These resolutions were passed after the defeat, in every case, of amendments seeking to render action nugatory, whereas in the case of B 4 (the support of principles laid down by Mr. Asquith in his Dublin speech) the clause calling upon Societies to work for the building up of public opinion on these lines was deliberately deleted by the Council.

We are a democratically constituted Society. We have deliberately considered and voted on the principles which are to govern the N.U. during the coming year. Are these resolutions to be set aside and the Union condemned to inactivity, except in such directions as meet with the approval of the remaining half of the Executive?

Julia E. Tomlinson,
Hon. Sec., Manchester and District Federation.

Madam,—It was very astonishing to some of us to read in Mrs. Fawcett's leader in The Common Cause of April 23rd that the National Union is to confine its energies to relief work and the educational courses recommended by the Council. Many other resolutions were passed at the Council meeting, calling upon Societies to work for goodwill and mutual understanding between nations; calling upon the organised women of the world to press a policy of conciliation and arbitration on their respective Governments; asking for an International Women's Suffrage Alliance Congress to be called at the earliest opportunity.

We spent *three* days in London discussing these questions. Are our decisions to be completely ignored?

We have always prided ourselves on our democratic constitution, but when Mrs. Fawcett declares the resignations of half the Executive and Hon. Officers to have no sufficient cause, and then proceeds to lay down a policy which is contradictory to the feelings of the Council meeting, it seems to me we ought to be asked to meet again in special Council to make clear that we meant what we said.

M. Cheetham,
Hon. Sec., Knutsford Society.

Madam,—The majority of the N.U. Executive had a clear right to decide that the Union as a whole should not be represented at the Hague and elsewhere; it was the only course consistent with the attitude of aloofness which they had adopted. But they have gone further and interfered with local Societies which would otherwise have appointed representatives; this is a definite Anti-Pacifist step which cannot be justified either by their own policy of neutrality, or by the resolutions passed in February; while if it was meant to secure a united front, it has disastrously and publicly failed. It is not too late for the mistake to be acknowledged, and we may count on the generosity of both sides to allow some at least of the resignations to be withdrawn.

Besides being a breach of neutrality, this decision rests on a mistaken principle of interpretation, for it is based not on what was passed at the annual Council, but on what was rejected. By refusing to pass certain resolutions the Council decided to leave the Union and the constituent Societies free on these points; it deliberately refrained from laying down any policy which would be binding on the Societies under Rule V. Moreover, the rank and file members have never even seen the rejected resolutions, and it is quite unconstitutional to base any important decision on them alone.

The local societies are not mere branches of a central organisation, formed to carry out the policy it decrees; they keep their full individual existence while joining for certain purposes in the National Union. The particular point at issue was one on which there was no clear "will of the people" within the Union which might reasonably overrule any society which was united enough to wish to take action. The demand for Women's Suffrage is a demand for truer democracy; cannot even the National Union give an example of democratic government?

Hilda P. Hudson.

Madam,—Mrs. Fawcett's letter of April 23rd has called forth sympathy in Kent, while we deplore, as she does, the secession of so many valued workers from the N.U. It has been suggested that the Executive be asked to co-opt. members to fill the vacancies and not to call a Special Council for the purpose.

Many of us approve of the action taken with reference to the Hague Conference.

Gertrude E. Mosely.

Madam,—As I was not a delegate to the recent Council, I am not familiar with the arguments used by Mrs. Fawcett against the International Women's *Suffrage* Congress. I do not, however, agree with Mr. Armstrong that a Women's Suffrage Congress and a Women's Congress are practically the same thing. A Women's *Suffrage* Congress would have received publicity *as such* in the press, and little or no account need have been taken of other questions discussed, for it would not have been necessary to issue a formal programme if the object of the delegates was as stated—to get at one another's point of view on international policy—*that* part of the proceedings could surely have been informal. But with a Women's Congress, the vagueness of the title alone

would have invited a close scrutiny of the programme (which was, through that vagueness, rendered necessary), and in the present abnormal state of the public mind that programme was calculated to irritate rather than unite, and has to my knowledge alienated people sympathetic to Women's Suffrage, people who, progressive in every respect, would be foremost in their efforts to help on such propaganda *after* the war, but who think that women (and men, too, for that matter) would be much better employed while the war lasts in studying the case they hope to bring forward in all its bearings. In my opinion Peace Societies and Arbitration Leagues have failed in the past, very largely because their proposals have been so hopelessly theoretical; they have not known enough of past and present international history, nor have they rightly understood the psychology of their own or other nations, and I would suggest that if the twelve who have resigned are really in earnest about their ideas, and really understand the issues involved, they might go back to their places on the Executive and find good work ready to their hand as leaders and lecturers of the educational course now being organised by the Union. The branches are wanting a lead in this direction, if the courses are to bear good fruit, and the retiring twelve, together with as many as can be spared from the present Committee, are the people to do it. There is no need for Mrs. Swanwick (or any other member of the Committee) to waste her admittedly valuable time and brain on relief work—the education of the National Union in foreign policy and kindred subjects is a work crying out to be done, and is a work for which the genius of the retiring members is peculiarly fitted, and ought not to be shirked. 52,000 members thoroughly grounded in all the causes leading to war means 52,000 members ready and capable of spreading their doctrines of future peace. Until that grounding is given it is, to my mind, idle to talk of women's influence on foreign affairs, and a waste of time to attend Congresses which are neither representative nor informed, and are likely therefore to be misleading and mischievous.

I hope that a Special Council will be called, and that it will endorse Mrs. Fawcett's view of what after all, I see by the daily papers, has turned out to be a *Peace* Congress. I hope also, that those who have invoked democracy will see to it that their own house is put in order, and that the next Council will represent not the Committees of the branches *only*, but also the majority view of the members. I have been told that the Society to which Mr. Armstrong belongs did not consult its *1,500* members as to the line its delegates were to take at the last Council.

(MRS.) A. HAZELL.

OBJECTS OF THE N.U.

MADAM,—You state in your note to Miss Hadow's letter in last week's COMMON CAUSE that "the cause of future peace is the basis of the Women's Suffrage Movement." Would it not have been more correct to say that the cause of future peace is *partly* the basis of the Women's Suffrage Movement?

For the Women's Suffrage Movement is itself only a part of the world-wide movement towards democratic principles of Government which, carried to their right and logical conclusion, must inevitably lead to women's enfranchisement. This has already happened in the Scandinavian countries, in parts of the United States and of the British Empire.

The supreme task of the democratic state is to develop civilisation (which includes the spiritual as well as the material growth of nations) to maintain Peace, to establish Justice and to vindicate Freedom. Therefore it may be said that the cause of Civilisation, of Peace, of Justice, and of Freedom all make up the basis of the Women's Suffrage Movement—no one of these alone, but all equally, are part of that basis.

These are the principles which unite all Suffragists. Hitherto we have striven for our enfranchisement as a means to the attainment of our political ideals; now, it is being suggested that this process should be inverted—Mrs. Swanwick, for instance, tells us that she and those who have recently resigned from the Executive Committee wish to "work actively" (presumably by carrying on an active campaign of political propaganda) for the abolition of militarism, in order to assist the cause of Women's Suffrage at the present time. The only Resolution, however, which would have authorised the Executive Committee to participate in any active campaign of political propaganda (except purely Suffrage propaganda) at the present time was vetoed by the last Council. The Executive Committee is obliged to take into consideration not only what the Council passes, but also what it refuses to pass.

HELENA AUERBACH.

ARMY CLOTHING CONTRACTS.

MADAM,—May I express the surprise with which I read the article on "Army Clothing Contracts" in the columns of your last issue. As Secretary of the Home Workers' League I am well aware of the miserable earnings of many outworkers, and deeply interested in any means that can improve their position, but the publication of misleading statements hardly seems to be one of them. That large profits have been, and doubtless, are being made out of Government contracts is true—and that the ultimate worker receives in comparison a "miniature" wage is also true; but, the exploiter, or as you have it "The Hun at Home," is not necessarily, nor even frequently the "sub-sub-sub-contractor." He may sometimes be a superfluous entrepreneur, his position and existence may be a problem, but he is rarely the large profiteer.

I need only refer those who care to know the actual facts to a widely quoted article, written by Mr. Hitchcock, Secretary of Toynbee Hall, which appeared in the January number of the *Toynbee Record*. Indeed Mr. Haslam would seem to have found some of his figures there, though his article is a most unfortunate travesty of the case. As a single example, he says, "All the sub-contractor provides is the labour"—and again "Hence it would appear that any act of charging a home worker for thread is a direct form of robbery." This simply is not so. Sewings are provided neither by the Government nor by the large contractors. Let us at least try to be fair and remember, that whatever the abuses of sub-contracting, it has under existing conditions, some uses, and that the sub-contractor pays in wages a larger proportion of his turnover than does the direct contractor.

N. YOUNG, Hon. Secretary.

[*An article on this subject by the Secretary of Toynbee Hall will appear in our next issue.*—ED., C.C.]

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WOMEN'S WAR SERVICE.

MADAM,—I see it is reported that at a Mansion House meeting at York on April 10th, Miss Thornton, a Board of Trade representative, quotes Mr. Lloyd George's letter to me as having "amplified" the agreement which resulted from the recent Treasury Conference between Mr. Lloyd George and Labour representatives.

I must protest against the correspondence between Mr. Lloyd George and myself being used to make women believe that women's sweated labour will not be employed to reduce the wages of men. Mr. Lloyd George stated that "women undertaking the work of men would get the same piece work rates as men were receiving before the date of this agreement."

I replied to Mr. Lloyd George's letter, asking for an assurance that if women are employed on time rates to replace men, these rates shall be the same as those that were hitherto paid to men. To this letter, which was sent on March 26th, I have received no reply; but at the Conference of women's societies, which was called at the Board of Trade on April 13th, Mr. Runciman, President of the Board of Trade, said that in regard to Government contracts, whilst it had been decided that the same piece work rates should be paid to women as to men, *in regard to time rates no special conditions had been laid down with regard to women's labour. The general safeguard against women being used to displace men was that employers were being asked to take back those of their men who had served in the army.*

These words plainly show that there is absolutely no guarantee that women shall not be employed to do men's work at a lower rate. Whether the work of men has hitherto been paid by piece or by time, there is nothing to prevent women being engaged on time rates only, in which case the Government has expressly stated that it will exact no conditions.

From the woman's point of view, it is unjust that women should be employed to do men's work at a lower rate; from the man's point of view, it is disastrous. Guarantees to take men back into employment after the war is over can never be enforced, and if any proof of this were needed, we may find it in the fact that promises by employers to make allowances to the wives of their workmen who are fighting at the front, are already being broken on every hand.

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

A CANADIAN ALLY.

MADAM,—The following extract is from a letter just received from a correspondent in Saskatchewan:—

". . . the women are doing well for the Red Cross. Close by us a school district called Greenwood raised fifty-eight dollars at a little sale of work, the organisation and much of the work being done by a woman who has eight children under twelve years of age. Six of them go to make up the eleven who attend the school. She has always been neat and clean. . . . This is one of the many cases here where the woman is the mainstay of the homestead. When the re-adjustment comes after the war I do not see how justice can be denied them, considering the work they are doing and the wonderful power of organisation shown. . . . Saskatchewan has led the way in restricting the liquor traffic; the bars closed at 7 p.m. on April 1st, and close altogether on July 1st. Alberta, I hear, is going to do the same."

EMILY VAUGHAN JENKINS.

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MEETINGS:—Tuesday, May 11th, 8 p.m. Speaker: Lady Frances Balfour. Chair: Mrs. Auerbach.
Wednesday, May 12th, 3.30. Speaker: Mrs. Ackroyd (W.F.L.)
Friday, May 14th, 3.30. Speaker: Mrs. Cecil Chapman (New Con. Soc.)
The Tariff at this Club instead of rising with the War, is being lowered. Note the present 1/- lunch—Soup, Joint, two Vegetables, Bread, Sweet or Cheese. Test it as the ***BEST SHILLING LUNCH IN LONDON.***

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All Business Communications *to be addressed to The Manager,* The Common Cause, *14, Great Smith St., Westminster, S.W., and all* Advertisements *must reach the Office not later than first post on Wednesday. Advertisement representative, S. R. Le Mare.*

The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 52,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time suspended their ordinary political activities, in order to put themselves and their Union at the service of those who are organising the relief of distress caused by the war.

War and the Child.

"The value of children is doubtful," wrote an agriculturist in the April number of *The Nineteenth Century*. He is right, and his words have a wider application than he intended. "The value of children is doubtful!" That is necessarily the attitude of war to the child. War cries out for service; children cannot fight, and their labour is mainly valued for its extreme cheapness. The child sees war as a game; he has no part nor lot in its realities, though they may cause him measureless suffering. It is not so in the other large affairs of life. Love is crowned in the child; religion sets him up in the midst; all social betterment is occupied with him; but war and the child are spiritually alien.

Yet the suffering of war presses heavily upon children. Consider how they are affected at the present moment. We say nothing of that which is beyond all words, the suffering of children in invaded countries. If the history of their sorrows in this war alone could be written, who would bear to read it? But such history is not written. To see these things is to keep silence about them for very shame. Montenegro, our smallest ally, is not an invaded country. This is her condition, according to *The Daily Graphic*, April 17th: "Montenegro is starving; her people have not enough to eat; nothing is coming in at her ports. Her cupboards have no bread in them, not even war bread; the last cargo of maize sent to her cannot get in." When grown people "have not enough to eat," the mortality among their children invariably shoots up. "Our hungry enemy," too, has children, as innocent as our own, whose fate is bound up with the vicissitudes of war. The children of our own country, it is happily true, are suffering less grievously, and some are said to be better cared for than in time of peace. Yet there are signs already which urgently need watching. For example, the enormous rise in the price of coal has been alone accountable for severe physical hardship to our children. In ordinary winters, in London, coal goes up in price about 2s. over the summer prices; this winter it has risen by 9s. "This circumstance in itself," as *The New Statesman* observed, "has meant pain and suffering to the aged and weak, hunger to the self-denying mother, even death to the babes for whose milk there were no pence." Or take a smaller instance, but not without importance. Miss Sylvia Pankhurst has called attention to the children who have waited for enormously long hours in the cold, outside bakeries, to buy stale bread at reduced rates. When prices rise (and already the quartern loaf is 8½d.), children suffer irretrievably, and for this reason alone the question of war prices becomes of paramount importance. There is another most potent effect of war upon child mortality—that is the increase of illegitimate births, which is at this moment a subject of anxious thought. The mortality among such "unwanted" children is normally more than double that of the ordinary birth-rate. Proposals are being made as to how to deal with this "new social evil"—so deplorably far from new—of which the immediate occasion has been the restlessness and excitement of numbers of young girls when the war began, added to the conditions of billeting and of camp life. Women patrols have remarked upon the extreme youthfulness of these girls, usually, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, and sixteen years of age. These future mothers are themselves but children, and their shame must be counted as one of the consequences of war upon the childhood of the nation.

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Or let us turn to the present position of school children. We have repeatedly in these columns called attention to the case of the children "turned out of school," as Bernard Shaw likes to express it, "to scare crows." A White Paper recently issued forces us to realise with what alacrity we seized upon child labour, as a ready expedient, in the earliest days of the war. It was not a deliberate or considered exploitation, and already the employment of children is deprecated by leading agriculturists, in the interests alike of children and of agriculture. It was not deliberate, but it was instinctive, a typical example of the insistent demands of war upon the weak and defenceless, not in an invaded land, nor among an inhuman people, but in an inviolate and child-loving country such as ours.

Another cause of turning children out of school has received less attention till quite recently. Schools are being commandeered for hospitals, and when this demand is of proved necessity, no one can complain. The wounded must take precedence even of the children; but it is open to question, and has indeed been freely discussed, whether all other means have been tried before recourse is had to this expedient. The suggestion of commandeering large houses for the purpose seems far preferable, and a proposal that open-air camp schools should take the place of the ordinary buildings when necessary is also particularly worth considering, in view of the remarkable results already obtained from such schools in the case of delicate children. On the first day of the present session of Parliament, Mr. King asked the President of the Board of Education for returns of elementary schools commandeered by the military authorities, with particulars in each case, and this was Mr. Pease's reply: It is worth noting. "I do not think that I should be justified in granting this return, which would involve an amount of labour, both for the seriously depleted staff of my department and for the local Education Authorities, out of proportion to its public utility or interest." There are things to-day of greater "public utility and interest" than the concerns of school children. "Their value," at the moment, "is doubtful!"

The question of schools suggests the general question of the mental and moral effect of war upon children. The unlucky German school child who is ordered to write an essay on, consider Moltke's words, "Eternal peace is a dream, and not a beautiful one, either," or "How does Professor Lesson prove the impossibility of tribunals between States?" must be finding life intolerably depressing, and war a harder puzzle even than it appeared to Peterkin. Yet, according to the *Vossische Zeitung*, the schoolmasters who set such tasks show that they understood their time and their pupils! We may smile, but an admirable article on "War Lessons: Economies for Children," in a recent *Times* Educational Supplement, is not so very much more merciful. These intellectual riddles may not affect our children very deeply, but the moral education of children in war time is a profound and vital question, and the women who succeed in solving it are doing the best of all war service. Indeed, upon its solution, more than upon any other circumstance, depends the whole question of future peace.

We are given to understand that the German child is suffering in a special degree from the moral effects of war, being taught habitually to greet his playmates with the famous malediction. The effect of such teaching must certainly be incalculable. Some children may laugh and forget, and be not a shade the worse, while others will enter the dismal ways of national prejudice before their time, to their irreparable loss. But what of ourselves? We may forbid our children to greet us with "Good morning! God punish Germany!" but so long as "God punish Germany" is the substance of our thoughts, our children will suffer as cruel a wrong as the children of our enemy. What, then, shall we teach our children about war? We may teach them what we like. There is one thing they will learn. Whatever our spirits contrive to lay hold upon and appropriate to themselves, whether love or hate, the children will make their own. If the value of children at this unhappy moment is doubtful, their suffering in body, soul, and spirit is a tragic certainty, from which no belligerent country can hope to escape. And yet which among the nations since history began, or who among statesmen and diplomatists, has counted the ruin of children as a factor in the situation, before plunging into war? For such a change in the deliberations of warfare we must be content to wait until the day when women are enfranchised, and when the voice of men and women together is heard in the councils of the nations. When the basis of the franchise is a human basis, many truths too homely and simple to be grasped to-day will assuredly come to light, and not least among them will be this, that only by the achievement of lasting peace, never by recourse to war, can the nations win for their children any reasonable security against unthinkable suffering and wrong.

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Consisting of Six Readings and Discussions, will be held at the office of THE LONDON SOCIETY OF THE N.U.W.S.S., 58, Victoria Street, S.W., at 5.30 on the following Fridays, May 7, 14, 21, 28, June 4, 11.

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Human Derelicts.

Mr. Kelynack* will forgive me if I seize the title of his book and apply it to a single class of "derelict"—the women who make a trade of vice. They are, perhaps, the most pitiable of all, and in spite of all that has been said and written about them recently, it is still hard to make the philanthropic public conscious of any further responsibility towards them than is contained in a desire to punish. Perhaps more knowledge is our first need. If more of us knew how perpetual and how savage has been the war of society against the prostitute, how brutal the measures of repression tried, how utterly ineffective to remove the evil, we should have fewer people advocating such measures as the now notorious "Cardiff Order," or a revival of the discredited C. D. Acts to-day.

But such knowledge would help us very little if it stopped at an abandonment of active cruelty towards those who have become a source of danger. This sort of despair is common enough, and not in the least helpful. What is needed is a further humanising of public opinion, such as has taken place in some degree already towards the seduced and abandoned girl. I do not mean by a more humane public opinion the deplorable sentimentality which has in the last two or three weeks sought to surround with a halo illegitimate parenthood; I mean the deeper sense of responsibility which seeks to preserve the child from punishment, and which affirms the responsibility of fatherhood as well as motherhood, and of society as well as of the individual.

It is easy to see why the sympathy so readily called forth for the "first case," stops short when immorality becomes a trade. The seduced girl has been tempted; the prostitute is clearly and certainly the tempter. The former has had her life wrecked; the latter is wrecking the lives of others, often not only innocent, but young and ignorant as well. And so, when "the problem of the camps" became acute, it was very generally assumed that, while the foolish young girl must be protected, nothing but measures of coercion and suppression could be thought of for the professional sinner.

But is it not futile to draw this hard and fast line between the sinner and the sinned against? I remember a magistrate telling me of a girl who came before him on a charge of blackmail. She had been engaged as a typist in an office with four men, and, he was persuaded, had been brought into that office with a deliberate intention of those four men to ruin her. Well, they had succeeded. She was now as completely "ruined" as they could wish. No one who saw her would find it easy to pity her—so brazen, so flaunting, so debauched. "But," said the magistrate, "it was those men I wanted to go for. Who made her like that?"

If we have learned to pity the deserted young mother, and to ask "who made her like that?" can our pity stop short of her more pitiable sister? "I think no one will contest the fact," says Professor Gaucher,† "that of ten prostitutes, eight at least have been seduced and deserted." Is it reasonable, then, to withhold from these women now the pity we would have lavished on them then? It is true they are much harder to help, a hundred times harder to redeem. But if we were partly responsible then, we are not less so now; and the difficulties are not insuperable if we could always remember that the prostitute is a human being, and not *merely* "a danger to society."

The importance of this apparently elementary fact has been perpetually overlooked, and even when reform (and not coercion) has been proposed, it has been on a cast-iron system. Public opinion demands from the "rescued" woman endurance of toils and privations which her life has made impossible to her, and has complacently expected from the sinner a penitence which is only possible to the saint. Against this harsh judgment, the rescue-worker has too often struggled in vain. "Do not forget," said the lady in charge of all the rescue-work in a large city, when I was about to address a meeting on the subject, "that what we have to combat here is not mere indifference, but active hostility." "Hostility!" I exclaimed; "who can be hostile to rescue work?" "Oh, people think we make the path of the transgressor too easy," was the reply. Too easy! Will you, then, for a moment think what these girls (many of them still quite young) are like?

To begin with, they are demoralised by perpetual excitement. That in itself, and even when the excitement is of a horrible kind, makes a normal and regular life almost intolerable. Then they drink—almost without exception. Many of them take drugs as well. They have now got to do without these, and that by itself is torture. Their nerves are shattered. To take up a new employment, to break old habits and ties, to lead a regular and quiet life—all this requires an effort of the will which their whole life, since they fell, has made almost impossible. And on top of this, to expect them to adapt themselves to the hardest and most laborious toil, under a regimen of religious strictness, is to expect what in many cases is not only difficult, but fantastic.

I do not say "in all cases"; for the whole point of the appeal I want to make is that the "cases"—being human—are all different. For some, hard labour is good; it is even essential. For some, a tremendous religious appeal is the only hope, and I believe this is true of more than is generally supposed. But others have not this capacity to appeal to, and are not capable of hard and exhausting toil. Some—very many—need work that is interesting and creative, that a new interest may fill the aching void of the excitement that has been foregone. To others, work in the open-air is the true restorative.

An attempt to meet the needs of girls with a capacity for beautiful and creative work has been made at the Weaving Studios by Miss Inez Skrine, with results so hopeful as to encourage us to regard it as the pioneer of a much larger experiment. Some day we hope to embark on a great scheme which by its size will enable us to find scope for every need and every variety of temperament. Such a project would require at least £30,000 to start it on a sound financial basis, and it would be adapted, not to the prostitute only, but to others who had made shipwreck of their lives, and who required a long period of training to fit them to lead a normal life without becoming a danger to the community. The women would live in cottages (as at Duxhurst), and would be employed in gardening, poultry-keeping, intensive culture and dairy-work; or in weaving, embroidery, dress-making, and other "crafts." The scheme, which owes something of its inspiration, as will be seen, both to that great pioneer, Lady Henry Somerset, and to Miss Inez Skrine, has been developed by Dr. Helen Wilson, Mrs. Creighton, Mrs. James Gow, and others.

It does not seem possible to launch this Women's Labour Colony at present, when money is needed for so many urgent causes. But since this cause—both for the sake of our women and our men—is also very urgent, an appeal is made for at least a beginning. Miss Skrine has already started a weaving industry. It is hoped now to found a home also for those who need work in the open-air. £1,000 would enable a beginning to be made with fifteen girls. To give money to a better purpose would be impossible. We have tried long enough to repress and to coerce, and we have failed. Let us now seek reform rather than repression, to save rather than to punish. The Woman's Movement has been largely and nobly responsible for the more humane attitude of the public towards the seduced girl and her baby. Let us now take courage and face our responsibility to the prostitute also—and to those whom she destroys. Are we not bound to? For remember—"out of ten prostitutes, eight at least have been seduced and deserted."

A. Maude Royden.

(Subscriptions should be sent to A. J. Jutsam, Esq., Manager, Westminster Branch, London City & Midland Bank, Ltd., or to the Hon. Sec., Miss Wakefield, 70, Belsize Park Gardens, N.W.)

* Editor of *Human Derelicts*.

† Professor Gaucher holds the principal Chair of Syphiligraphy in Paris.

THE QUEEN AND WOMEN DOCTORS.

The Queen has sent £250 to the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women to pay for the training and expenses of a woman medical student. The money formed part of a fund placed at her Majesty's disposal by the wives of Freemasons.

WAR OFFICE GIRLS.

The War Office has engaged six little messenger girls to work at the Contract Department in Tothill Street in place of Boy Scouts, who are forbidden by their order to do evening work. The girls remain on duty till 9 p.m., and if the experiment proves successful it may be further extended.

The Hague Congress.

At the time of going to press the British Committee of the International Women's Congress has not yet received an account of the proceedings at The Hague. The following telegram has, however, been received from Miss Courtney :—" International Women's Congress voted unanimous regret for absence of 180 British members, whose presence would have so much added to the weight of the decisions. Otherwise, Congress has been enormous success."

It is reported that twenty-eight women were present from Germany, forty-four from the United States, five from Belgium, fifteen from Sweden, sixteen from Norway, four from Austria, seven from Denmark, two from Italy, and one each from Spain, Russia, Poland, and Brazil, as well as a large number of Dutch women. The Women's Enfranchisement Association of the Union of South Africa, appointed by cable two women at The Hague as their delegates to the Congress. From the 180 delegates from Great Britain and Ireland twenty-six were eventually allowed passports. Unfortunately, however, as all sailings to Holland were stopped, only Miss Courtney and Miss Chrystal Macmillan (who were already at The Hague) were able to be present. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Aletta Jacobs, the well-known Suffragist of Amsterdam. Miss Courtney, speaking of the pleasure which they had felt on hearing that Holland was calling a Congress, said that " we women believe in friendship among nations and races, that all peoples are still sisters and brothers. In spite of the hate the press is trying to stir up, we recognise the women of the belligerent countries as our sisters, with the same joys, the same sorrows. We send them greetings in words of sympathy and understanding."

One of the first resolutions passed states that one of the strongest forces for the prevention of war in future will be the combined influence of men and women, on which ground the Congress declared itself in favour of equal political rights for both sexes. The Congress announced its determination to do all in its power to promote mutual understanding and good will among the nations and to resist any tendency towards hatred or revenge.

One of the German delegates said that the view of the German women attending the Congress was that in future disputes must be settled by arbitration alone. A resolution was adopted demanding that future disputes should be referred to arbitration or conciliation.

The resolution of protest against war was as follows : " We women protest against the madness and horror of war, involving as it does a reckless sacrifice of human life and the destruction of much for which humanity has laboured for centuries to build up." The resolution was passed unanimously.

The Congress also resolved in favour of regarding all secret treaties as void, and demanding that foreign policy should be subject to democratic control, which should include equal representation of men and women; while another resolution affirmed that " there should be no transference of territory without the consent of the men and women residing therein, and the Congress demands the autonomous democratic representation of the people."

The Times of May 1st reports that on April 30th " The Women's Congress came to grips with realities, and the meeting was for the first time not only interesting, but occasionally even thrilling. There was, first, the presence of five Belgian ladies who had been permitted, at the last moment, to leave Belgium. They arrived last night, having crossed the frontier on foot, and their appearance aroused deep sympathy.

Frau Rosika Schwimmer, representing Hungary, delivered an oration proposing a resolution of sympathy with the suffering of all those fighting for their country or labouring under the burden of war. She invited the audience to stand for a moment in silent meditation on those fallen for their country and those left behind. The response to this invitation by a Congress representing many nationalities was most impressive."

We understand that the resolution calling for a truce, to which objection was taken by the British delegates and others, including Fru Anton, of Norway, was withdrawn. According to *The Times*, a resolution, proposed by Frau Schwimmer, and seconded by a Danish member, represented a compromise, and was further amended, out of deference to the Belgian delegates.

" It was accepted without debate, but before its final adoption Mlle. Hamer, a Belgian representative, raised a protest against any peace not based upon the principles of justice. Mlle. Hamer had understood an armistice was about to be proposed, and, although a pacifist, had come from Belgium to oppose such an action. It was not without emotion that the Congress saw this representative of stricken Belgium protest against the injustice done to her country."

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N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

In the absence of Dr. Inglis, her place as Commissioner at the Scottish Federation office is being taken by Miss Mair, whose name is so familiar to Suffragists, and who is well known in Edinburgh for the support she gives to every scheme for the advancement of women's interests.

We regret to announce the resignation of Miss Crompton, owing to ill-health. Her ceaseless devotion to the work of these hospitals has entitled her to a well-earned rest. Miss Craigin, with the rest of the Federation staff, has done her utmost to lighten the task of our new Organising Secretary, Miss Marris.

Dr. Inglis, travelling by the overland route to Serbia, was able to pay a visit to Royaumont on the way. She writes :—

"I am more than delighted with the place; the new wards are beautiful. The operating theatre is as perfect as any I have ever seen, and the whole place is in perfect order. The patients —178 were in to-day—seemed most contented, and everybody on the staff looked well and keen."

From Malta comes the exciting news that Dr Alice Hutchinson's Unit, which was on its way to Serbia, has been requisitioned by the Government for immediate service to nurse our own troops.

Serbia.

From Serbia Dr. Soltau reports that though there does not seem to be any decrease, as yet, in the number of typhus cases, the epidemic is becoming less virulent and the mortality is decreasing. The results of the Scottish hospitals are most satisfactory.

Mrs. (Florence) Brown, Manchester, has kindly promised to send for Kraguievatz, a supply of medical and surgical stores, sheets, pillow-cases, towels, &c. She says: "We are making an appeal here to all golfers, to raise a memorial to Miss Madge Neill Fraser, which will take the form of beds in the Kraguievatz Hospital. How brave these good souls are to go to those terrible places, so that they may do good to those poor sufferers."

Gifts in kind, as follows, will be gratefully received by Dr. Elsie Inglis, at 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or at 58, Victoria Street, London, S.W. They should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the donors :—

Bed jackets, dressing gowns, bedroom slippers, pyjamas (flannel and cotton), day shirts (flannel and cotton), blankets (old and new), draw sheets, feather pillows, sheets, towels of all sorts, pillow-cases, helpless case shirts, pants, vests, hot-water bottles (rubber), hot-water bottle covers.

Further help is urgently required to carry on the work of our units. Subscriptions very gratefully received either by the Hon. Sec., Dr. Elsie Inglis, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Lawrie, Red House, Greenock; cheques to be crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland." Contributions for the London units should be sent to Lady Cowdray, 16, Carlton House Terrace, S.W.; gifts in kind to Miss Hunter, Equipment Secretary, London Society, 58, Victoria Street, S.W.

Welsh Unit for Serbia.

As a result of Dr. Inglis's visit to Newport and Cardiff, on March 24th (when she spoke of the urgent need for help in Serbia), it was decided to try to raise enough money to equip a Welsh Unit, £1,500. A letter signed by Mrs. Lloyd George, the Lady Mayoress of Cardiff, Mayoress of Newport, the Hon. Violet Douglas Pennant, Mrs. Lewis (President of the S. Wales and Monmouth Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies), and Mrs. James Robinson, ex-Lady Mayoress of Cardiff, appealing for money, was sent to all the leading Welsh newspapers. In Cardiff a separate committee has been formed, with Miss Mabel Howell as Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Lewis Greenmeadow as Treasurer, and the Lady Mayoress as Chairman of Committee. A very warm response to this apeal has already been received, and many gifts in kind have been sent. In addition to those already received, several more have been promised. In N. Wales much zeal and enthusiasm is shown, Bangor alone having already sent in a contribution of £250.

We were very glad to welcome the second contingent for Serbia which passed through Cardiff on Monday, April 19th. The smart nurses, wearing uniforms with the Gordon tartan, attracted much attention and sympathy when their mission was known.

Further Donations to Scottish Hospital.

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Per Mrs. Baldwin Brown :— Collected in Inverleith Terrace	3	11	6
Per Mrs. Baldwin Brown :— Collected in Inverleith Place	5	5	0
Miss Woolf (Serbia)		10	0
Mrs. Percival, President of Cirencester W.S.S., per Miss H. M. Swanwick (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Mrs. McMullen (Serbia) ...		5	0
Misses W. I. and D. J. Bertram (Serbia)		10	0
Mrs. W. Barrow (Serbia) ...	2	0	0
Dundee W.S.S., per Miss McIntyre, Hon. Treas. (to name 2 "Dundee" Beds— further donations—Serbia) :—			
Mrs. J. Hendry (£5), Mrs.			

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

	£	s.	d.
Reid (£5), J. Smeiton, Esq. (£5), Miss N. I. Baird (£5 5s.), Mrs. D. M. Maxwell (£5), British Women's Temperance Association, Lilybank "Ys" (£5), Teachers of Dudhope Public School (£4 4s.), Teachers of Glebelands Public School (£3 3s.), Sisters of St. Mary's (£3), W. Hendry, Esq. (£2), Mrs. R. A. Mudie (£2), Miss M. Cunningham (£1), Dr. Julia Pringle (£1), Miss J. K. Low (£1), Miss M. MacIntyre (£1), Miss I. A. Walker (£1), Mrs. Bruce (£1 1s.), St. Paul's Bible Class Girls (£1 2s. 9d.), Dr. J. Logie (£1), St. Salvadors Bible Class Girls (17s. 3d.), M. P. C. Lochee (10s.), Mrs. Collie (2s. 6d.)	54	5	6
Mrs. Watkins	2	0	0
Proceeds of Cake and Candy Sale in Bridge-of-Allan Parish Church Hall, per C. Wardlaw, Esq., Session Clerk (Serbia)	30	10	6
Heywood W.S.S., per Miss E. Grundy, Hon. Treas.	8	0	0
"Anon." (Serbia)		1	6
Proceeds of Entertainment, per R. J. Hogg, Esq. (Serbia)	4	12	0
Winchester W.S.S., per Miss A. E. Dumbleton, Hon. Sec. (5th instalment, for "Winchester Suffragists" Bed, Serbia)	4	19	6
Bideford W.S.S., per Mrs. Lightbody, Hon. Sec. (Serbia)	1	0	0
Perth W.S.S., per Miss E. W. R. Alison, Hon. Treas.:—			
The Feu House, per Miss E. M. Young (13s.), Miss J. Mitchell (2s.) (Serbia) ...		15	0
A. T. Alison, Esq.	5	0	0
The Misses Steele (further donation)	1	5	0
Miss S. Melville	1	1	0
Edinburgh W.S.S., per Mrs. Wilson (further contribution):—			
Miss Margaret Rintoul (to name the "Edinburgh Margaret" Bed, Serbia) (£25), "Member of Schoolhouse, Fettes College (Serbia) (£4), "M. B." (Serbia) (5s.)	29	5	0
Mrs. Rodgers, per Mrs. Combe (towards "Clarendon Crescent" Bed)	1	1	0
Per Miss S. J. Medley:—			
"Longdon Village" (Serbia)		10	0
Miss M. A. Wybrants	2	0	0
Miss C. I. Macdonald	5	0	0
Swindon Branch, N.U.W.S.S., per Mrs. A. Green	2	0	0
Dr. Jeremy	3	0	0
Miss Augusta Jones	2	2	0
Kentish Federation, N.U.W.S.S., per Miss Gertrude Mosely, Hon. Sec.:—			
H. R. Leyinsohn, Esq. (£1 5s. 6d.), Colonel and Mrs. J. G. C. Curtis (£1), Mrs. A. Gaster (£1), Miss Druce (10s.), Miss B J. Phillips (10s.), Mrs. M. Davis (5s.), Miss R. Weld (5s.), Miss Mosleley (3s. 6d.), "M. E. D." (1s.)	5	0	0
Miss Bennet (Serbia)	2	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Hartas Jackson (Serbia)	5	0	0
Collected by Mrs. Mathers (to name "Roxburgh" Bed)	52	0	0
"Anonymous" (Serbia) ...	1	1	0
"Anonymous"		10	0
Per Mrs. E. Watson—Part Proceeds of Sale held in Linwood	5	0	0
Dr. and Mrs. Macfarlane ...	5	0	0
"E. A. F."		10	0
Staff of Dalmuir Public School, per Wm. G. Johnston, Esq. (Serbia)	3	0	0
Mrs. Allan	5	0	0
Master Philip Baxter (Proceeds of Concert given by Himself) (Serbia)		1	0
"Anonymous"	2	0	0
Part Proceeds Recital, Braid U.F. Church Musical Association, per F. R. Higgins, Esq. (Serbia)	3	0	0
Part Collection, Braid U.F. Church Sunday School, Jan. 1st, 1915 (Serbia)		2	6
Fife and Kinross District Asylum, per Miss E. A. Thomson. Asst. Matron:—Miss Futter, Matron (9s.), Female Staff (£2 11s.) (Serbia)	3	0	0
Mrs. Morton	2	2	0
Miss Anita Stewart		10	0
Miss J. R. F. Smith and Friends (Serbia)	2	0	0
Halley's Industrial Motors, Ltd. (Manchester Branch)—Further weekly contribution, per J. G. Pearson, Esq., District Manager	1	2	6
Miss M. E. Lowndes (further donation)	20	0	0
Rev. John Main (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
"C. A. M."	1	1	0
Miss Turnbull and Miss E. Anderson	2	0	0
Miss M. Anderson (Serbia) ...		2	6

	£	s.	d.
Anonymous—"A Gift of Love for the Cause"	2	0	0
Mrs. S. Moore Ede	2	2	0
Miss Dorothy Marshall ...	1	0	0
Miss Marr	2	0	0
Mrs. Galloway, per Miss Philp	5	0	0
Mrs. Mercer (Serbia)	2	0	0
"Anonymous"		5	0
Per Miss Dorothy H. Melvin, Superintendent, Glasgow and West of Scotland College of Domestic Science (to complete "Glasgow College of Domestic Science" Beds), from Staff and Students (France)	25	0	6
Mrs. T. B. Lawson	5	5	0
"Anonymous" (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Ramsgate W.S.S., per Mrs. Bath, Hon. Treas.	1	1	0
The Hon. Sec., Hon. Treas., and a Member, Ramsgate W.S.S.		7	6
Mrs. Paine (Serbia)		10	0
Miss Moffat (Serbia)	1	1	0
Miss E. McNeil (Serbia) ...		15	0
William Mackenzie, Esq. ...	5	0	0
Mrs. P. M. Greig, per Miss Mair (Serbia)	1	1	0
Mrs. Grainger Stewart (Serbia)	1	1	0
Miss Alice M. Tebbutt (Serbia)	20	0	0
"Anonymous" (Serbia) ...		5	0
Mrs. C. W. Allan (Serbia) ...	3	3	0
Collected at North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple (2nd collection), per Miss M. Lillie, Matron:—			
M. Lillie (2s.), G. Hindle (1s.), M. Pinks (1s.), M. Broom (1s.), P. Ariel Wright (6d.), F. Burrows (6d.), D. Merchant (6d.), Lenten Fines (7s.)		13	6
Staff of Borrowstone School and Friends, per Miss J. L. Burr (Serbia)	2	0	0
Malvern W.S.S., per Miss B. Alder, Hon. Sec. (2nd donation—to name "Malvern Suffrage" Bed, Serbia) ...	25	0	0
Mrs. Napier	2	0	0
Mrs. Cossar	1	0	0
Miss Janet Duncanson	25	0	0
"Anonymous"		2	6
Per Mrs. Gunn (to name 2nd "Craigmillar Park" Bed):—			
Per Miss Gillie: Miss Scott Moncrief (£1), Dr. Margaret Cameron (£1), Small Sums (£2), Miss Stewart (£1), Per Miss Knott (10s.), Mrs. Oswald (5s.), Mrs. Henderson (10s.), Mrs. A. Cormack (£1 1s. 6d.), Mrs. Colquhoun (£1), Per Miss Graham (£1 1s.), Per Miss Clark (£2 12s. 6d.), Per Miss Ross (£3), "Anon." (£1)	17	0	0
Per Active Service Fund, N.U.W.S.S. (Serbia):—			
Mrs. Keyworth (£10), Bridlington W.S.S. (£2), Mr. C. G. Husband (£1 1s.), Miss L. Greenfield (£1), Mrs. Todhunter (£1), Per Miss G. Cooke: Cheltenham W.S.S. (£1), Dr. Farengey (10s.), Mrs. Duncan (£4 4s.), Two Sympathisers (4s.), Members of Old Girls' Society, Central Secondary School, Hull, Proceeds of Entertainment (£10), Miss A. Robson (£1), Mr. E. W. and Mr. G. M. Jones (10s.), Mrs. F. H. James, "In Memoriam, April 17th, 1911" (7s. 6d.), Mrs. C. F. Taylor (7s. 6d.), Mr. J. Naylor (5s.)	33	9	0
Miss A. C. MacLeod (Serbia)	5	0	0
Oxon, Berks, and Bucks Federation, per Mrs. R. H. Berney:—Mrs. Dixon Davis (£1), Mrs. Whitfield (£1), Mrs. Commeline (10s.) ...	2	10	0
Per Mrs. Irwin Smart (to name Bed "In Memory of Dr. Elizabeth Ross," Serbia)	50	0	0
Mr. Finlay B. Anderson, of Messrs. Lindsay, Jamieson, & Haldane	15	0	0
The Misses L. and M. Murray (Serbia)		10	0
Mrs. Buckley (Serbia)	5	5	0
Miss Fairbairn	1	0	0
J. A. Chalmers, Esq. (Serbia)	5	0	0
Mrs. E. M. Semple (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Miss Coutie		5	0
Miss Constable (Serbia) ...	2	0	0
"Anon."	1	0	0
Brought forward ...			
Kilmarnock W.S.S., per Mrs. Robertson:—Mrs. J. W. Thomson (towards "Ailsa" Bed)	1	0	0
Miss Janet Watson	1	0	0
Mrs. Kennedy (Serbia) ...	5	0	0
"Anonymous" (Serbia) ...	5	0	0
Miss Anna J. A. Boase	5	0	0
Kentish Federation — Deal, Walmer, Kingsdown, and Sandwich Branch N.U.W.S.S., per Mrs. Marks, Hon. Treas.	8	0	7
"Anonymous" (Serbia) ...		10	0
Miss K. C. Erskine (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
J. C. Thomson, Esq.	1	0	0
Kelso W.S.S., per Mrs. Fleming (further towards "Kelso Margarets" Beds):—Mrs. Storey (1s.), "Margaret" (5s.), Mrs. Napier (2s. 6d.), "Another Margaret" (1s. 6d.)		10	0
The Misses Duff (Abbaye de Royaumont)	1	10	0
Mrs. Farquhar (£5 5s.), Miss R. J. Farquhar (£3 3s.) (Serbia)	8	8	0
The Pupils of Langside Public School, per John S. Gilchrist, Esq., F.E.I.S. (Serbia)	3	5	0
Alexander Rankin, Esq., M.D. (Serbia)	1	0	0
Miss W. M. Anderson	3	0	0
Mrs. Malcolm (Serbia—2nd donation)	10	0	0
Herne Bay W.S.S., per Miss E. M. Field, Hon. Sec. (Serbia — towards "Herne Bay" Bed)	6	0	0
Mrs. A. C. Clark, per Dr. Honoria Keer (Serbia) ...	1	1	0
"A Sympathiser" (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Miss Annie T. Hope (to name "Hope" Bed)	25	0	0
"Anonymous"		5	0
C. R. Jamieson, Esq., per Dr. Sandeman	2	0	0
"Anonymous," per Mrs. Wallace Williamson	20	0	0
Miss I. R. Heggie (Serbia) ...	1	1	0
Miss Clough	1	0	0
Miss H. Armour	5	0	0
Mrs. Oliver	15	0	0
Mrs. Allan S. Kennedy	10	10	0
Miss H. M. Lamb	2	2	0
The Hon. Mrs. Scott	5	0	0
Lady Agnew (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. MacPherson	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. W. Thomson ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Hart	10	0	0
"M. K."	40	0	0
Miss Sullivan	5	0	0
Miss MacCallum	1	10	0
James Speid, Esq.	10	0	0
Proceeds of Sale of Red Cross Union Jack Pincushions and Belgian Pen-wipers, Mrs. Caverhill (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
The Girls' Y.W.C.A., per Miss E. S. Mushet, Hon. Sec. (Serbia)	1	0	0
Wigtown Work Party, per Mrs. Black, Hon. Sec. (Serbia)	2	10	0
Proceeds of Concert given by Scholars of Findhorn School, per Alex. Middleton, Esq., Headmaster (Serbia)	2	16	3
Miss Lorimer	1	0	0
Miss M. R. Thomson	2	0	0
Miss J. Peterkin		10	0
Mrs. Wight	5	0	0
Mrs. T. H. Vickers	1	0	0
Miss K. M. Anderson	3	0	0
The Misses Lyon (further contribution)	1	1	0
Per Mrs. Todd—Collected by Mrs. Isles (Serbia):—Mrs. Fowler (5s.), Mrs. Stenhouse (5s.), Mrs. Isles (5s.), Miss Johnston (2s. 6d.), Mrs. W. Isles (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Laidlaw (2s.), Miss Stewart (2s.), Miss Kolwegan (1s.)	1	5	0
The Misses Coltman (£25 for "Madame Coralie Cohen" Bed in France, £5 for Serbia)	30	0	0
The Misses Mason, per Mrs. Murray, Hon. Sec., East Lothian Work Depôt (Serbia)	5	0	0
Manchester Branch of Halley's Industrial Motors, Ltd., per J. G. Pearson, Esq.	1	2	6
Sunderland W.S.S., per Mrs. Mundella, Hon. Treas. (further donations—Serbia):—Women Assistants, Messrs. H. Burn's Son & Co., Drapers (£3 6s. 6d.), Result of Sale, per Miss M. S. Burford, District Nursing Association (12s.), Amounts under 10s. (12s.)	4	10	6
Collected by Miss Bell:—Mrs. W. C. Dickson (£1), D. D. Baird, Esq. (£1), Miss Baird Shaw (£1), Miss King Webster (10s.) Mrs. Newall (5s.), Miss Stewart (5s.) ...	4	0	0
Part Offertory at Whitton Parish Church (£2 1s.), Mrs. Hale (£1 5s. 6d.), per Miss M. Whiteford (Serbia) ...	3	6	6
Miss Christine Orr (for Dr. Elsie Inglis's Hospital in Serbia)	13	0	0
J. Strang, Esq. (Serbia) ...	10	0	0
Mrs. F. W. G. Anderson (Serbia)	100	0	0
Scottish Women's Guild, per Mrs. K. Miller, Hon. Sec. (Serbia)	8	10	0
Per Dr. Honoria Keer:—Mrs. R. Johnston Paton (to name "Templetonburn" Bed, Serbia)	50	0	0
Misses G. Barton and R. Gardner (Serbia)	5	0	0
Lodge Saint John, No. 1,021, Aberlour, per E. Annan, Esq., Sec. (Serbia)	2	16	0
Miss Williamson (Serbia) ...	10	0	0
Kentish Federation, N.U.W.S.S., per Miss Mosely:—Mrs. Lelacheur (Serbia)	5	0	0
P. Stewart, Esq. (Serbia) ...	5	0	0
Miss M. Brown (£5 for France and £5 for Serbia)	10	0	0
T. Yule, Esq.	2	2	0
Mrs. Harris	2	2	0
Miss Jamieson (Serbia) ...	5	0	0
Miss Thompson	25	0	0
Mrs. R. B. M. Lorraine (Serbia)	5	0	0
Miss Bennet		10	0
R. Ramsay, Esq. (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Miss Churchill	15	0	0
Mrs. Conochie (Serbia) ...		5	0
Letchworth W.S.S., per Miss M. Sugden, Hon. Sec. (to name "Letchworth" Bed, Serbia)	25	0	0
Dunbar Literary Society, per J. Gibb, Esq., Hon. Treas. (Serbia)	1	1	0
Miss H. M. Snow		8	6
Per Mrs. Thoms—Mrs. Rodger	5	5	0
From Six Children (In Memory of Miss Neill Fraser) (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. J. Ivnes (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
St. Margaret's Sunday School, Corstorphine, per Miss Webster:—Miss C. Main, C. Beck, Mr. D. Brown, P. Thomson, E. Styles, H. Thomson, E. Bain, J. Main, W. Bain, W. Main, S. Brightee		4	6
West Bromwich W.S.S., per Miss Bye, Hon. Treas.—Proceeds of Meeting (Serbia) ...	1	3	0
Miss K. M. Cordiner	1	0	0
"J. W." (Serbia)	1	0	0
Miss Menzies		5	0
Miss Lilian M. Howell (Serbia)	15	0	0
Mrs. Buchanan (Serbia) ...	5	0	0
William George Sym, Esq. (further donation)	1	0	0
F. J. Armstrong, Esq.	1	0	0
Mrs. Prigen	1	1	0
Dairymple U.F. Church, per Mr. Watson	1	0	0
"Anonymous"		2	6
Per Mrs. Carter (to name "Ainslie Place" Bed):—			
Fred. W. Carter, Esq., C.A. (£10), Mrs. Carter (£7 3s.), Miss Carter (£1 1s.), Thomas Barclay, Esq. (£5), John Macmillan & Son, S.S.C. (£3 3s.), Dr. Girdwood (£2 2s.), Hon. J. W. Mouncrieff (£2), Mrs. Mylne (£2), Mrs. Nelson (£2), Mrs. Blair (£3), Mrs. Bruce (£1 1s.), Miss Don Wauchope (£1), Mrs. Matthew (£1), Miss Spence (£1), Lady Constance Blackburn (£1), P. W. Campbell, Esq. (£1), Prof. Rankine K.C. (£1), Miss Rankine Brown (£1), Lady Kinross (£1), R. H. Blair, Esq. (£1), Mrs. McNair (£1), Lady Kennedy (£1), Mrs. Mackenzie (£1), Maids at 11, Ainslie Place (17s.), Mrs. Cumming (10s.)	50	0	0
Mrs. Douglas	1	0	0
Proceeds of Concert given by Kirn Girls' Social Circle, per Miss E. L. Ferguson, Sec. (Serbia)	10	10	0
Scotstounhill Branch of the Red Cross Society, per Mrs. Rea	10	0	0
Thomas Nicoll, Esq., Calcutta, per Miss Nicoll (Serbia) ...	5	0	0
Mrs. Mutter Napier (further donation towards "Clarendon Crescent" Bed), per Mrs. Combe		10	6
"Surrey Suffrage" Bed, per Miss Atkinson:—			
Farnham and District (12 13s.—Total to date, £13),* Reigate and Redhill District (£5),* Croydon (2nd donation, £2),* Oxted (2nd donation, 13s.)* (Camberley (2nd donation, 6s. 6d.),* Miss Sylvia Drew (£3),* Mr. and Mrs. G. Pilcher (£1),* Lady Jenkinson (7s. 6d.),* Farnham W.S.S. (additional, 7s.), (Total, £25 7s.)		7	0
Staff of Battlefield School, Langside, Glasgow, per Alex. Flint, Esq., Headmaster	5	2	6
Miss Blair (Serbia)	1	0	0
Total to April 24th ...	£22,787	16	9½

* Previously acknowledged.

Proceeds of Concert held in Nairn (to name "Nairn" Bed, Serbia), per A. Mackenzie, Esq.	26	10	0
Miss Grace G. Gray	2	0	0
The Misses Middleton	1	0	0
"J. S. & E." (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. A. B. Mitchell (Serbia)	2	0	0
Miss Annie Maclean		10	0
Mrs. Johnston, per Miss A. E. Dumbleton, Hon. Sec., Winchester W.S.S. (Serbia) ...	25	0	0
"J. F. M." (to name "Delta" Bed, Royaumont)	25	0	0
Miss Osmond Williams (further towards "Olwen" Bed—Total to date, £50)	25	0	0
Miss S. E. S. Mair (towards "Moray Place" Bed) ...	20	5	0
Miss Jeanie S. Cooper		6	0
Miss E. H. Scott Moncrieff ...		10	0
Mrs. A. A. Duncan	5	0	0
Collected in the Established Church, Strathpeffer, per A. Wallace, Esq. (Serbia) ...	1	5	0
North Berwick W.S.S., per Lady Schafer, Hon. Sec. and Treas.:—Mr. and Mrs. W. Reid (£25), Hall Blyth, Esq. (£20), Dr. and Mrs. Teacher			

	£	s.	d.
(£20), George Dalziel, Esq. (Serbia) (£10), Mrs. J. H. Cassels (£5), James Craig, Esq. (£5), Mrs. James Craig (£5), H. Crum Ewing, Esq. (£5), Mr. and Mrs. Guild (£5), Sir Edward and Lady Schafer (£5), Mrs. Philipson (£5), Mr. and Mrs. Esson (£3 3s.), Edward Clark, Esq. (£2 2s.), Mrs. Macfie (£2 2s.), Colonel Farie (Serbia) (£2), Frank Tennant, Esq. (£2), Dr. Frank Crombie and Miss Crombie (£1), T. Mansfield Hunter, Esq. (£1), Major Kirkpatrick (Serbia) (£1), Dr. Milroy (£1), Miss Ada Orr (Serbia) (£1), Sir William Baird, Bart. (10s.), Major and Mrs. Scott (10s.), Amount collected at Meeting (£11 16s. 6d.), Total	139	8	6
"Anonymous" (to name four Beds, Serbia—"In Memoriam J.S.," "In Memoriam J.S.," "In Memoriam W.J.S.," "In Memoriam M.T.S.")	100	0	0
Miss Thirza Fothergill (further contribution)	4	0	
Chinley and Chapel-en-le-Frith Branch W.S.S., per Miss Ethel M. Preston (to name Bed, Serbia)	25	0	0
Godalming W.S.S., per Mrs. G. T. Pilcher, Hon. Treas.:—Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Pilcher (£5), Miss Ritchie (10s.)—(further towards Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation)	5	10	0
Sittingbourne Baptist Church Choir, per E. N. May, Esq., Hon. Sec. (Serbia)	1	10	0
Miss M. Haynes	1	0	0
Newton Parish Church, per W. M. Mowat, Esq. (Serbia)	12	17	0
Nurse Dawson (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Hanning (Serbia) ...	5	5	0
The Gift of Girton and Newnham Colleges to the Troyes Hospital Unit, per Miss Violet H. Jacob, Hon. Treas.	1,809	12	5
Miss Winifred Kinnear (Serbia)	1	1	0
The Misses Dishart	2	0	0
Collection from Sunday School Class, per Miss T. Muriel Wilson (Kragujevatz) ...		6	0
Proceeds of Concert held at Ardgour, Argyll, per Miss Mary C. McColl (Serbia) ...	4	1	0
The Nursing Staff, City Hospital, Edinburgh, per Miss J. Thomas, Matron (Serbia)	10	0	0
Domestic Staff of St. Mary's School, Melrose, per Mrs. Hamilton (further donation)		10	0
The Misses Laurie (Serbia) ...	5	0	0
Miss Meta M. Grier (Serbia)	1	0	0
Miss Jane P. Brown	1	0	0
Mrs. Warden Briggs (Serbia)	5	0	0
Mrs. Grace	3	0	0
Collection at Duffus Parish Church, per Mrs. Chalmers	1	6	6
Proceeds of Concert given by Dunfermline Select Choir, per Thos. Hardie, Esq., Union Bank of Scotland, Ltd. (Serbia)	7	13	6
Mrs. Jefferson (France and Serbia)	20	0	0
Miss A. Mitchell (towards Ambulance)		10	0
Glasgow W.S.S., per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas.:—Mrs. Glen (to name "Glencoe" Bed) (£50), The Ladies of Rutherford U.F. Church to name "The Rutherford U.F. Church" Bed) (£30), "E.A.S." (to name "Andrew Bell Philp" Bed) (£5—previously acknowledged, £20), "M. G. B." (Serbia) (£10), Carriden Parish Church Women's Work Party (Serbia) (£10), Miss Wallace (£10), Mrs. Mark Bannatyne (Serbia) (£5 5s.), "S. M." (Serbia) (£5), John Greenlees, Esq. (Serbia) (£5); J. R. Forrest, Esq. (Serbia) (£5), Belhaven Missionary Society, per John Faill, Esq. (Serbia) (£3 18s. 7d.—further donation), The Misses Easton (Serbia) (£3 5s.), "J. M. G." (Serbia) (£3), The Blythswood Nursing Home (£2), The Misses N. and E. Greenlees (Serbia) (£2), Miss Forrest (Serbia) (£2), Miss I. R. Cunningham (Serbia) (£1 1s.), Miss Cameron (£1), "A. S." (Serbia) (£1), "M. T. S." (Serbia) (£1), Mrs. T. Paisley (Serbia) (£1), Miss Torrance (10s.), Mrs. Hunter (5s. 6d.), Miss Morrison (5s.), "A Friend, per A.S." (5s.), Queen's Park B.W.T.A. (2s. 6d.), Total	172	17	7
Total to May 1st ...	£25,572	9	7½

Erratum Note.—Miss Stevenson, £1 1s., omitted from detailed list of donors, Gerrard's Cross, W.S.S.

FURTHER LIST OF BEDS NAMED.

Name.	*Donor.*
"Hope"	Miss Annie T. Hope.
"Madame Coralie Cohen" (France) ...	The Misses Coltman.
"Nairn" (Serbia)	Per A. Mackenzie, Esq.
"Delta" (Royaumont)	"J. F. M."
"In Memoriam J.S." (Serbia)	Anonymous.
"In Memoriam J.S." (Serbia)	Anonymous.
"In Memoriam W.J.S." (Serbia) ...	Anonymous.
"In Memoriam M.T.S." (Serbia) ...	Anonymous.
"Glencoe"	Mrs. Glen.
"The Rutherford U.F. Church" ...	The Ladies of Rutherford U.F. Church.
"Andrew Bell Philp"	"E. A. S."
"Cupar-Fife" Bed (Serbia)	Cupar W.S.S., per Miss Innes.
Two further "Dundee" Beds (Serbia)	Dundee W.S.S., per Miss McIntyre.
"Edinburgh Margaret" Bed (Serbia)	Edinburgh W.S.S., per Mrs. Wilson, Miss Margaret Rintoul.
"Roxburgh" Bed	Collected by Mrs. Mathers.
"Malvern Suffrage" Bed (Serbia) ...	Malvern W.S.S., per Miss B. Alder.
Second "Craigmillar Park" Bed ...	Per Mrs. Gunn.
"In Memory of Dr. Elizabeth Ross" Bed (Serbia)	Per Mrs. Irwin Smart.
"Templetonburn" Bed (Serbia) ...	Per Dr. Honoria Keer, Mrs. R. Johnston Paton.
"Letchworth" Bed (Serbia)	Letchworth W.S.S., per Miss Sugden.
"Ainslie Place" Bed	Per Mrs. Carter.

The Hon. Treasurer begs once more to thank all friends who have helped and are helping, and will gratefully receive further contributions to carry on the work.

Cheques should be sent either to Dr. Elsie Inglis, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or to Mrs. Laurie, Hon. Treas., Red House, Greenock, and crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland."

A WOMEN'S EXHIBITION.

The British Industries Fair, organised by the Board of Trade, at the Agricultural Hall, which opens on May 10th, is open only to the trade, but on May 10th, 11th, and 12th an exhibition of equal interest, which is open to the public, will be held in the Caxton Hall, Westminster.

At the Women's Exhibition, which is arranged by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes, genuinely original British toys may be seen, both finished and under the hands of the workers in the making. The East London Federation toys were greatly admired at the Toy Trade Fair, which was held in March, and it was admitted that the Federation's wax-headed dolls were not only the best produced in this country, but prettier than any of the German ones. The British Babies, Jap Babies, and Brown Babies were also agreed on all hands to be *the* perfect rag dolls. The soft animals, monkeys, rabbits, &c., and wooden toys also hold a very high place, and many beautiful new toys have been produced by the Federation since the Toy Fair, including a very delightful spring lamb.

Another interesting exhibit will be that showing the workers in a group of trades which, unfortunately, are known as "sweated." Here women will be seen making soldiers' khaki trousers, coats, bandoliers, &c., brushes, match-boxes, and so on.

The International Suffrage Shop will present an interesting exhibit, showing the progress of the Women's Movement all over the world and literature bearing upon it. A Food Prices Exhibit will be arranged by the Joint Food Supply Committee of Associated Societies.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
MISS EVELYN ATKINSON.
MISS EDITH PALLISER (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer:
MRS. AUERBACH.
Secretary:
MISS CROOKENDEN.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1960 Victoria.

Press Report.

In the general Press the news of the War naturally overshadows other topics. *The Lady's Pictorial* is issuing articles on the work of the National Union of W.S.S. which ought to be read by its members. The first article appeared in the issue of May 1st and gave an acount of maternity work, workrooms, Belgian relief work, women patrols, &c. It contains an excellent picture of Mrs. Fawcett. *The Central Somerset Gazette* published a column of Suffrage Notes on April 24th, and *The Aldershot News* of April 22nd gave two and a-half columns about Suffrage work at home and abroad as described at a Suffrage meeting.

Members of the National Union are urged to make a point of calling at the Shop at 50, Parliament Street, and inspecting the literature on sale. There is a large stock of books and pamphlets dealing with questions of War and Peace. Among the most recent additions is *The Unmaking of Europe*, by P. W. Wilson (better known to Suffragists as "P. W. W.") of *The Daily News*. The Secretary will be glad to order any books required, also to supply them on sale or return to Societies who are following out any educational course. The arrangements for a tea-room are not yet complete, but it is hoped that the Reading-Room will be open at the end of this week.

Active Service Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	4,797	7	1
Dr. M. O'Brien (6th donation)	1	0	0
Mr. T. Tindle Anderson, junr. (8th monthly donation) ...		2	6
Professional Women's Patriotic Service Fund:—			
Dr. M. O'Brien	1	0	0
Dr. Edith E. Goodrich (2nd donation)	2	10	0
Staff, Post Office, Charles Street, Haymarket	1	0	0
Mr. Chas. S. Murray	2	0	0
Mr. Harris	2	0	0
Received for the Scottish Women's Hospital	14	4	6
	£4,821	4	1

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1914	861	2	0
Received from April 24th to May 1st, 1915:—			
SUBSCRIPTIONS.			
Miss Emily Ford	1	0	0
Mrs. George		5	0
Mrs. J. Veldeman		1	0
Mrs. W. D. Dobell		10	0
AFFILIATION FEES.			
Bangor W.S.S.	1	12	6
Gosforth and Benton W.S.S. ...		7	0
Haslemere W.S.S.	4	4	0
Hexham W.S.S.		18	9
John o' Groat's W.S.S.		5	0
Romford and District W.S.S.		10	3
Topsham W.S.S.		10	3
Tunbridge Wells W.S.S. ...	1	17	9
Warrington W.S.S.	2	7	6
Carmarthen W.S.S.		13	6
Crowborough W.S.S.		5	0
Grantham W.S.S.		5	0
Llangollen W.S.S.		12	6
Maidenhead W.S.S.	1	1	9
Middleton-in-Teesdale W.S.S. ...		5	0
Midhurst W.S.S.		9	0
Port Talbot W.S.S.		15	0
Shipston-on-Stour W.S.S. ...		6	6
Swindon W.S.S. (instalment)		5	0
Ringwood W.S.S.		6	3
Bingley W.S.S.		17	3
Church Stretton W.S.S. ...		6	0
Glenfarg W.S.S.		10	0
Gloucester W.S.S.	1	11	6
North Walsham W.S.S.		5	0
Banbury W.S.S.	1	10	0
Burton-on-Trent W.S.S. ...		16	0
Leighton Buzzard W.S.S. ...		11	9
Sidmouth W.S.S.		17	3
Street W.S.S.	1	5	9
Fleet W.S.S.		10	6
Grimsby W.S.S.	1	12	6
Marple Bridge and Mellor W.S.S.		12	6
Mussoorie W.S.S.		13	0
Newton Abbot W.S.S.		7	6
Wakefield W.S.S.	2	16	3
Wednesbury W.S.S.		10	6
Basingstoke W.S.S.		7	6
Deal, Walmer, and Sandwich W.S.S.		10	0
Pickering W.S.S.		6	0
DONATION.			
Miss J. Hume	1	0	0
	£898	12	3

PIONEER WORK FOR WOMEN.

Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to accept a bound copy of Dr. Blackwell's book, "Pioneer Work for Women," sent to her by Mrs. Fawcett.

WATERLOO ROAD CLUB FOR GIRLS.

The organiser of the Club for Girls, 23, New Cut, Waterloo Road, founded by Mrs. Harley, gratefully acknowledges the sum of 5s. sent by Miss E. E. Goodrich, and a box of flowers from Mrs. Bertram. A cupboard, with lock, and a table are still badly needed, and donations are always welcome.

What Some of Our Societies are Doing.

Cirencester.

The annual meeting of the society was held on Saturday, April 24th, when a most interesting address on the work of the N.U. since the outbreak of the war, was given by Miss Cooke. Special stress was laid (by request) on the Scottish Women's Hospital Fund, and it was resolved to endeavour to raise money for a Gloucestershire bed for Serbia. No collection had been announced, but 10s. was subscribed in the room, and several further donations were promised. A promise of garments from one of the working parties in the town was also made. A vote of thanks to the speaker was proposed by Mrs. E. Percival, whose daughter is at present driving a motor ambulance for the unit in France, and who gave a brief account of some of the difficulties and hardships so cheerfully encountered by the workers at Royaumont before things got fairly under way. At the close of the meeting an excellent 3d. tea was provided, which was much appreciated by the members.

Kentish Federation.

It is matter for regret that we are financially unable to employ an organiser, and that the Societies do not desire to undertake educational courses. The Hon. Sec. has collected £11 and a considerable number of garments for the Serbian Unit of the Scottish Women's Hospital. Deal and Walmer Society has been specially active for this cause, having sent a crate containing 341 new articles, besides a bale of 109 pieces for the Serbian refugees. Some good patriotic work is being done locally. St. Anselm's Red Cross Hospital at Walmer is always full; just now Canadians are there, and the Auxiliary Hospital at Deal is overflowing. There is a strong Belgian Refugee Committee and a Patriots' League. The latter gave a Café Chantant on May 6th.

Blairmore and Shine.

A very successful Jumble Sale and Flag Day was held in Shine Public Hall on April 10th, by the Blairmore and Shine Suffrage Society in aid of the Women's Hospitals on Foreign Service. The sum drawn was £34 19s. 6d.

Scarborough W.S.S.

At the Grand Hotel on Thursday afternoon, April 15th, in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospital Unit in Serbia, an interesting lecture was given by Colonel W. A. Tilney, 17th Lancers, entitled "The Practical Use of the Heavens." The Mayor (Mr. C. C. Graham) presided. The lecturer dealt with the value of knowing the stars and constellations as a means of finding one's way about in any unknown place. He demonstrated the method of fixing the position of stars in the heavens and steering a course by that means alone, and emphasised its military value by the fact that in one case during the retreat from Mons, an officer was able to bring his men to safety, during the night, through his knowledge of the position of a certain prominent star. After the lecture, which was well-attended, tea was served in the lounge.

Richmond.

Considerable interest was aroused by a meeting held at Richmond on April 23rd, under the auspices of the Richmond Suffrage and other local Societies, for the purpose of establishing women police. Mr. Cave, K.C., M.P., though prevented by public duties from being present at the meeting, sent a letter of encouragement, as did Lady Frances Balfour. The Mayor of Richmond presided. Lady Nott-Bower dwelt on the need of little girls and young women for the protection and help which police members of their own sex were alone able to afford. Miss Damer Dawson, Chief of the Women Police Service, in a forceful and business-like speech gave an outline of their methods, and made an appeal both for funds and recruits, which latter she said were greatly needed. A collection was taken by six police ladies looking exceedingly smart in their neat uniforms. The Rev. Max Binney, Vicar of Richmond, moved a vote of thanks and spoke of the urgent need of the reform. This was seconded by Lieut.-Col. Fosse, in command of the troops now stationed at the Star and Garter, Richmond. £10 10s. was taken in tickets and collection. Also three promises of £3 10s., and two of £1 were received.

Shipley.

A public meeting was held in the Saltaire Institute on Wednesday, April 21st, at 7.30 p.m. Miss Salt gave an interesting address on "Women's Work in War Time." There was a very large attendance of members and friends who listened attentively to Miss Salt's address. The Rev. P. Drummond Pringle acted as chairman and opened the meeting with a few well-chosen remarks.

A "Study Circle" of members has been formed. The circle will meet fortnightly in the evening, and the subject for study is to be "International Relations." The members have been fortunate in securing for a leader of the Study Circle a retired teacher of history, whose knowledge is profound.

Winchester.

The Winchester Society has been working for the Scottish Women's Hospitals all the winter, It has collected over £25 and named a bed —"The Winchester Suffragists Bed"—in the Serbian Hospital. During the winter months a working party was held, and shirts, pillow-cases, and hospital requisites were made and collected, and two cases of articles sent down to Edinburgh in March. The Society also arranged a public meeting to be held at the Guildhall on April 21st, and asked Dr. Elsie Inglis to come down and speak. Unfortunately at the last moment Dr. Inglis could not come having had to start for Serbia at once on account of Dr. Soltau's illness. But her place was most ably filled by Miss Kathleen Burke who in a most interesting, informing, and moving speech, kept her audience absorbed for more than an hour. The collection after the meeting amounted to £22 15s.

Ealing and Acton.

The annual meeting of the Ealing and Acton Branch of the London Society for Women's Suffrage was held in the Lecture Hall of the Town Hall, Ealing, on Thursday, April 22nd. Mrs. Vane Turner presided, being supported by Miss H. Bloxam (Hon. Secretary), Miss Debac (Hon. Treasurer), Miss Harston (late Hon. Secretary), and, later in the afternoon, by Miss Maude Royden and Mr. Brimley Johnson.

For many years, said Mrs. Vane Turner, the membership of the branch had averaged about 120; now it was 262, and the total of the Friends of Women's Suffrage had risen from 300 to 600. (Applause.) Mrs. Vane Turner then briefly recounted some of the outstanding events of the year, especially from that landmark when the branch had, in common with headquarters, decided to forego active propaganda work during the war. Among the activities of the Society, which had been very alert in mobilisation on an emergency basis, had been help given towards the equipment of the local auxiliary war hospital; the compilation of a register of voluntary and paid helpers in the district, which had proved of immense value to various relief committees, &c.; and the setting up of "The Elms" Belgian Hostel, of which Miss Bloxam was directrice, and which, although not entirely worked by Suffragists, had been largely so. The speaker then alluded to the convening by the Mayor of a meeting of women burgesses in the Town Hall on September 15th, the organisation of which had been entrusted to the society, and then went on to speak of the activities of various members of the Society's Committee on other bodies, she herself being Chairman of the Queen Mary's Work-room, and Miss Chick an indefatigable member of the Visiting Committee, to mention but two instances.

The financial statement was read by Miss Debac, and adopted.

The following members of the Committee were re-elected en bloc:—Mrs. Vane Turner, Miss Chick, Miss Debac, Mrs. Skinner, Mrs. Fox Wright, Miss Kyme Wright, Miss Eileen Hughes, Mrs. Sayers, Miss Harston, Miss H. Bloxam. The following were added:—Mrs. McBride, Mrs. Evershed, Miss Buck, Mrs. D. Morris, Miss Mylne, Miss M. Pyddock, Miss Birkett. Mrs. Vane Turner was re-elected president, Miss H. Bloxam, Hon. Secretary, and Miss Debac, Hon. Treasurer.

Holt.

The Holt W.S.S. held its annual meeting for members and "Friends" on April 22nd, in the Town Hall. This year, owing to the war it was considered better to keep the meeting to members and "Friends" and only a very few sympathisers were asked. The meeting was well-attended and most successful. Miss C. Smith, of Norwich, gave a paper on "Women's Work in War Time," including work done in Norwich, which was much appreciated and felt to be most inspiring and encouraging. The Secretary's report told of work done by the Society since August last:—A Belgian family assisted as much as was possible; a "Holt" bed equipped and supported for six months; parcels of clothes despatched to Belgian refugees; Canteens for Territorials organised or assisted at by different members. After the reports were read, tea was given. A collection taken at the door in aid of the Serbian Hospital amounted to over £2 2s.

Items of Interest.

Lecture by Miss Thurstan.

At a meeting of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society on May 13th, Miss Thurstan, who has lately been in Belgium, Russia, and Poland, will speak on "Her Red Cross Work" in these countries. The lecture will be given at the Halcyon Club, 13, Cork Street, W. Admission will be free; a few reserved seats can be obtained from the Secretary, 55, Berners Street, W.

Florence Nightingale Commemoration Meeting.

The Women's Freedom League (1, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.) is holding a Florence Nightingale Commemoration Meeting at the Essex Hall, Strand, on May 12th, at 8 p.m. The speakers will be Susan, Countess of Malmesbury, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Nina Boyle, and others. Admission free; reserved seats, 1s.

Forthcoming Meetings.

MAY 7.

Blackheath—"Elmsdale," Blackheath Park—Hostess, Mrs. R. H. Green—Speakers, Dr. Hazel Cuthbert and Miss Douglas Irvine

Edinburgh—Patrick Thomson's Tea Room, North Bridge—Whist Drive (in aid of the Serbian Unit of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals)—Tickets, 2s. 6d.—Speaker, Miss Alice Low 3.15—6.30

Manchester—Unitarian Schools, Wilbraham Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy—Speaker, Miss Illingworth 3.30

South Kensington—No. 8 Studio, Bedford Gardens, Campden Hill—Meeting in aid of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals—Hostess, Miss Sloane—Speaker, Dr. May Thorne 3.0

Belgian Hostel, 1, Argyll Road—Working Party for London Units of N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals 3.0—5.30

MAY 10.

Bristol—40, Park Street—Working Party 3.0

Manchester—Temperance Hall, York Street, Hulme—Hulme Suffrage Club—Speaker, Mrs. Atack 8.0

Strand, W.C.—Savoy Theatre—Public Meeting—Speaker, M. Emilie Vandervelde 3.30

MAY 11.

South Kensington—Belgian Hostel, 1, Argyll Road—Working Party for London Units of N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals 3.0—5.30

MAY 12.

Bristol—The Vicarage, St. Agnes—Working Party 3.0

South Kensington—19, Phillimore Gardens—Drawing-room Meeting—Speaker, Miss Muriel Matters—Chair, Mrs. Arthur Savory 5.0

Woking—The Tipperary Rooms, Duke Street—Annual Meeting of Society at 2.30—Public Meeting at 3.0—Mrs. Julius West on "The Government Scheme of War Service for Women"—Chair, Mrs. M. Handley Spicer

MAY 13.

Hoddesdon—Esdale Hall—Mrs. Rackham on "The Consequences of War"—Chair, the Rev. P. E. S. Holland 3.15

Wallasey and Wirral—St. Paul's Schools, Seacombe—Tipperary Club 7.30

MAY 14.

Bradford—136a, Manningham Lane—Annual Meeting of Society—Speaker, Miss I. O. Ford 6.0

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home"—Mrs. Melville and Mrs. Shaw M'Laren on "Women Patrols" 4.30

South Kensington—Belgian Hostel, 1, Argyll Road—Working Party for London Units of N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals 3.0—5.30

Wolverhampton—St. Peter's Institute—Speaker, Miss Dix (of Coventry)—Chair, Mrs. B. Higlefield-Jones 7.30

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The large London Market enables
ROBINSON Bros. of
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To give best prices for OLD GOLD and SILVER JEWELLERY, GOLD, SILVER, PLATINUM, DIAMONDS, PEARLS, EMERALDS, SILVER PLATE, ANTIQUES, &c., in any form, condition, or quantity. Licensed valuers and appraisers. Telephone, Museum 2036.
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Ten words, 9d per insertion; every additional ten words, 6d. per insertion. Four insertions for the price of three. All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 14, Great Smith-st., Westminster, and must be received not later than first post Wednesday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Memorial Hall, Manchester, Monday, May 17th, at 7.30 p.m.
RECITAL OF PIANOFORTE DUETS AND SOLOS
By HOPE SQUIRE and FRANK MERRICK.
Tickets 5/- (reserved), 2/6 and 1/-, from Messrs. Forsyth Bros., 126, Deansgate, and at the door.

RONALD KILDARE, versatile reciter, attractive repertoire.—21, Downside-crescent, Hampstead.

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AN ELDERLY LADY (very active) desires home as useful companion. Good cook (vegetarian inclusive).—Mrs. Grainger, At Open Combe, Haslemere.

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ARTIFICIAL TEETH (old) bought; we pay absolutely highest genuine prices—up to 5s. 6d. per tooth pinned on vulcanite; 10s. on silver; 12s. 6d. on gold; 35s. on platinum. Immediate cash. If offer not accepted, we return parcel post free. Satisfaction guaranteed.—S. Cann & Co., 68a, Market-st., Manchester. Bankers, Parrs. Mention "C.C."

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THE NATIONAL UNION.
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Name _____
(Mrs., Miss, Esq., or other Title.)

Address _____

Cheques to be made payable to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Auerbach, crossed London County and Westminster Bank, and sent to the N.U.W.S.S., Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W.

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